

*A Guide to AFS Publications Style*

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## *Preface*

The term “style” refers to the various editorial conventions that a publisher follows. Many of these—notably the ones pertaining to grammar, spelling, punctuation, and so forth—are common throughout the publishing world. Others—notably those pertaining to reference formats and the treatment of technical terms—vary from publisher to publisher. As a scientific publisher, the American Fisheries Society uses a highly precise style that is designed both to facilitate communication within the fisheries profession and to ensure the integrity of its publications.

This guide is intended to serve two different groups of users, namely, (1) authors and (2) the copy editors and others responsible for putting manuscripts into final form. As a result, not all of the information in the guide will be of interest to all users. For instance, it includes sections on grammar and so forth that will be “old hat” to copy editors but that may be useful to authors; in the same vein, it provides explanations of some basic scientific concepts with which copy editors may be unfamiliar.

Every effort has been made to enable users to obtain the information they want with a minimum of time and effort. The sections have been kept short, with numerous headings; style points are presented in terms of simple rules; and the examples that are given deal with situations that are encountered frequently. In many cases, it may be possible to resolve a style question simply by looking at the examples.

To facilitate locating all of the information on a particular topic, a number of cross-references are provided. There is also some intentional redundancy in the presentation. For instance, the fact that gene names are italicized is noted both in the chapter on symbols and in the chapter on the use of italics.

Although most of the guide is devoted to specific style points, the introduction offers some general pointers on scientific writing that should be of value to both authors and copy editors.

Given the vast number of style questions that can arise, no guide can really be complete. For points that are not covered, users should contact the Journals Department at 301-897-8616, extension 227, or [journals@fisheries.org](mailto:journals@fisheries.org).

Finally, in the interest of making this guide as useful as possible and keeping it up-to-date, users are encouraged to offer suggestions for future editions.

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## *Introduction*

Published articles are the permanent records of research efforts. They may be read well beyond the author's professional circle and even beyond his or her lifetime. For this reason, among others, they must meet strict standards for both content and presentation.

The peer review process is designed to ensure that the papers published by the American Fisheries Society (AFS) are relevant and scientifically sound, that is, that the approach is acceptable and that the conclusions are reasonable in light of the evidence.

The editing process focuses primarily on presentation. Authors sometimes wonder why editors are so strict, given that violations of the rules of composition seldom interfere with the communication of ideas. There are two reasons. First, poor writing places an additional burden on readers—it forces them to work out what the author means rather than grasping it immediately. To take a simple example, suppose that an author uses different terms for the same concept, say, “sampling sites” in some places and “sampling locations” in others. Readers have to make the connection between the two terms on their own, expending effort that would be better devoted to understanding the substance of the paper. The second reason is that poor writing lessens the author's credibility. However subtly, errors such as faulty grammar cast doubt on the quality of the underlying research; readers instinctively begin to question whether they can trust the author on more substantive points.

This guide contains a wealth of information on the fundamental elements of composition—grammar, spelling, punctuation, and so forth—as well as the ways in which AFS publications treat technical terms and symbols. The first step in writing a good paper is thus to become familiar with the material in this guide and to consult it as needed during the writing process.

Over the years, the editorial staff have noticed that certain problems occur over and over in papers submitted for publication, so it will be useful to highlight them here. One overarching problem is a lack of formality—the use of slang, undefined acronyms, abbreviated forms of expression, and so forth. Many authors, for instance, violate the general rule on using the full common names for fish species at each mention, using, say, “Chinook” for “Chinook Salmon.” (While AFS style permits the use of “salmon” or even “fish” when the species is mentioned frequently [see section 9.4], it does not permit the use of “Chinook” alone.) In the same vein, authors frequently use acronyms such as MSY (maximum sustainable yield) without explanation. If such a term is used only once or twice, it must be spelled out; if it is used more often, it must be spelled out the first time but may then be abbreviated as long as the abbreviation is given the first time (see section 1.2).

Another overarching problem is the use of language that is not natural. Although the use of technical terms is certainly acceptable, in other respects papers must be written

in ordinary English and not read like transcriptions of lab notes or seminar presentations. One particularly egregious example is the omission of the words “the” and “that” when the rules of grammar clearly require them. Consider the sentence

Fish we studied were age-0 hybrids.

In general, this sentence should be written

*The fish that we studied were age-0 hybrids.*

(see Chapter 14 for the exceptions to this rule). Additional examples of unnatural language are given in the sections that follow.

So far, then, we have the following general rule: *write naturally but with the formality required of a scientific paper*. We can flesh this rule out by noting that good writing must fulfill three conditions: it must be correct, it must be clear, and it must be reasonably smooth. Let us look at the three conditions in turn.

### *Correctness*

From the standpoint of presentation, correctness means (1) adhering to the accepted rules of composition and the particular elements of AFS style and (2) expressing ideas accurately.

As noted above, much of this guide is devoted to helping you meet the first objective. Let’s say that you are uncertain whether to write “main stem reaches” or “main-stem reaches”; section 10.12 will show you that “main-stem” is the correct form when the term is used as an adjective, as it is in this case. Similarly, section 2.9 will show you that the first word in the term “upper Mississippi River” is not capitalized because it is not part of a formal name.

One area in which authors frequently make errors is word choice. Take the classic example, “that” versus “which.” Although the two terms can sometimes be used interchangeably, at other times the distinction is crucial. For instance, the expression “The fish that were moribund” implies that only some of the fish were moribund, whereas the expression “The fish, which were moribund” implies that all of them were. Other examples are given in Chapter 14 of this guide.

Authors are also frequently in doubt as to the correct treatment of technical terms and symbols. For instance, should family names such as Ictaluridae be italicized? The answer is no (see section 9.3). What is the accepted abbreviation for the dosage that is lethal to 50% of the test animals? Appendix B shows that it is LD<sub>50</sub> rather than LD<sub>50</sub>.

With respect to the second element of correctness, expressing ideas accurately, consider the following example showing both the original and edited versions:

~~The variable concerns about pH is primarily of concern because of center on its effects on the toxicity of other variables, such as the toxicity of ammonia toxicity and heavy metals toxicity.~~

There are two problems with the original version. First, variables per se cannot be toxic; second, it refers to the toxicity of (ammonia and heavy metal) *toxicity*, which is tautological.

Here is another example of inaccurate expression:

~~As lampreys lose body mass, the branchial basket appears to remain constant in size compared with other body parts.~~

The original version is logically flawed because the size of the branchial basket remains constant regardless of what happens to the other body parts.

A classic (and often comic) case of inaccurate expression is the dangling participle. Here's an example:

~~By hatching prematurely, the diffusion barrier created by the chorion and the water in the perivitelline space disappears.~~

What the author meant was

~~When fish hatch prematurely, the diffusion barrier created by the chorion and the water in the perivitelline space disappears.~~

The original literally states that the diffusion barrier hatches, which is not the case.

### *Clarity*

A statement may lack clarity because its meaning is simply unclear or because it is ambiguous (i.e., more than one interpretation is possible). Here is an example of simple lack of clarity:

~~Each fish received an intraperitoneal injection with 0.1 mL of one of the two vaccines of the vaccine Furogen 2 or 0.1 mL of sterile 0.9% NaCl (control). Control fish were vaccinated with an injection of 0.1 mL of sterile 0.9% NaCl.~~

The original version fails to make clear that only one vaccine (Furogen 2) was compared with NaCl (the control) and errs in calling the latter a vaccine.

Here is an example of ambiguity:

~~Blood was taken while fish were anesthetized by inserting heparinized needles into the caudal vasculature while fish were anesthetized.~~

The original version is ambiguous because it is not clear whether the insertion of heparinized needles into the caudal vasculature was for the purpose of anesthetizing the fish or drawing blood from them.

## *Smoothness*

There are several issues to consider in constructing smooth statements.

*Awkwardness.*—Awkward sentence structure crops up in virtually all types of writing. Perhaps the best advice for avoiding it is to state your ideas as simply as possible. Consider the following two examples:

Counts became lower as sampling moved to deeper water ~~because~~~~due to~~ the latter quadrants ~~were being~~ less likely to have favorable substrate and therefore fewer red sea urchins.

~~There were only four instances in which~~ ~~Issues regarding~~ transceivers detected ~~ing, a~~ ~~transponder's code but displayed it incorrectly, displaying a transponder's code were rare in~~ ~~this study. In fact, the only instances in which tag codes were encountered (N=4)~~ ~~All of these~~ involved AVID-encrypted transponders.

In the first example, only two simple changes are needed to eliminate the awkwardness. In the second example, more extensive streamlining is required, including the transfer of some information from the second sentence (in the original) to the first.

*Verbosity.*—Using more words than necessary to convey an idea is a common problem in scientific writing. Consider a particularly bad example:

Fish that were vigorously chased showed significantly higher plasma cortisol levels than control fish. Although the plasma cortisol levels of these alewives were significantly higher than the levels of fish that did not experience vigorous chasing, the plasma glucose levels in these alewives were not affected.

This can be streamlined to

Although the alewives that were vigorously chased had significantly higher plasma cortisol levels than those that were not, they experienced no change in their plasma glucose levels.

Here's a less egregious example:

Although our reasoning ~~for drawing this conclusion~~ does not completely match ~~that of the~~ ~~reasoning used by~~ Smith (1970), we agree ~~with Smith (1970)~~ that the restoration of Great Lakes fish communities will require further reductions in the number of alewives.

In this example, the phrases “for drawing this conclusion” and “with Smith (1970)” have been deleted because they contribute nothing to the meaning of the sentence and the phrase “the reasoning used by” has been changed to “that of” to avoid unnecessary repetition.

As the last example suggests, one way to reduce verbosity is to use pronouns (“that”) in place of nouns (“the reasoning”) whenever the meaning is clear. Despite the widespread belief to the contrary, pronouns are perfectly acceptable in formal writing and do much to improve it.

Another way to avoid verbosity is to use shortened forms of expression for concepts that have already been stated in full:

The fish in zone 1 were the heaviest ( $130 \pm 17$  g [mean  $\pm$  SD]), followed by those in zone 2 ( $125 \pm 12$  g [mean  $\pm$  SD]) and then those in zone 3 ( $122 \pm 13$  g [mean  $\pm$  SD]).

Since it is clear from the first mention that all of the values given are means  $\pm$  SDs, repetition of that information is not necessary.

*Noun “sandwiches.”*—Closely related to verbosity is the practice of piling up nouns one after the other. Here’s a relatively inoffensive example:

This development would lessen ~~the responses of the Norris Lake largemouth bass populations~~ responses in Norris Lake to the imposition of length limits.

In addition to being inelegant, noun sandwiches can obscure the key relationships involved.

*Lack of parallelism.*—Parallelism means presenting similar information in a similar fashion. Here’s an example:

~~Winter in~~ Mortality due to harvesting and other causes was lower in winter than in summer.

Apart from being awkward, the original leads readers to believe that the subject is winter mortality rather than mortality per se, a misconception that is only corrected when they have read the entire sentence.

Here’s another example:

We recorded the reactions of the rainbow trout but not those of the brown trout.

The addition of the words “those of” makes it clear that it is the *reactions* of the two species that are the object of the sentence.

*Unidiomatic expression.*—Every language has its own particular conventions known as “idioms.” For instance, in English one would say “English is the principal language of the United States.” In French, however, one would say the equivalent of “The English is the language principal of the United States.” Unidiomatic expression is surprisingly common in scientific writing. Here’s a simple example:

We designed the experiment to ~~answer~~ address this issue.

Alternatively, the sentence could have been rewritten as

We designed the experiment to answer this question.,

but the phrase “to answer this issue” may not be used because it is not idiomatic.



Here's a more complicated example of unidiomatic expression that is also somewhat awkward:

This stems from the direct role that ~~causal relationship~~ the growth factor plays in ~~directly~~ regulating cellular proliferation.

The original is incorrect because growth factors play *roles*, not causal relationships.

## 1. *Abbreviations and Acronyms*

This chapter presents the general principles governing the use of abbreviations and acronyms. In addition, see sections 5.18–5.20 and 5.24 on units of measure and Chapter 11 on symbols.

### 1.1 An abbreviation is a shortened form of a word or phrase:

Inc. g e.g.

An acronym is a word formed from the first letters of the words in a compound term. Although acronyms often consist of all capital letters, they may consist of all lowercase letters or a combination:

AFS ppm mRNA

A list of abbreviations and acronyms that are used frequently in fisheries writing appears in Appendix B.

## SPELLING OUT

### 1.2 As a rule, do not introduce an abbreviation or acronym unless it is used at least three times, and spell it out at first use:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). . .

Exceptions to the rule about spelling out at first use are abbreviations and acronyms that

- are listed as standard abbreviations and acronyms in an AFS journal or book (see Appendix B)
- have entries in *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* (e.g., DNA)
- have entries in the *Merck Index* (Merck & Co., Rahway, New Jersey)
- are noted in sections 1.4–1.7

### 1.3 Once an abbreviation or acronym has been introduced, it should be used in lieu of the full term except when the term occurs at the beginning of a sentence:

Food and Drug Administration regulations require that. . .

*not* FDA regulations require that. . .

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If necessary, rewrite the sentence to avoid beginning it with an acronym:

Analysis of the specimens' DNA showed that. . . .

*not* DNA analysis showed that. . . .

**1.4** Certain stylistic abbreviations may be used:

e.g. i.e. etc. et al.

Note that commas must follow the first two.

The following abbreviations pertaining to business entities are also permissible:

Co. Corp. Inc. Ltd.

**1.5** An author may be referred to by his or her initials in the acknowledgments, footnotes, or text:

a grant to J.P.D. (J.T.S., unpublished data)

Place Names and Addresses

**1.6** The following abbreviations may be used in place names and addresses:

St. [Saint] Ste. [Sainte] Mt. [Mount]

D.C. U.S. [as adjective] USA [as noun] UK [as noun or adjective]

**1.7** The abbreviations NE, NW, SE, and SW (indicating sections of cities) and those denoting ordinal numerals (“-st,” “-nd,” “-rd,” and “-th”) may be used in addresses:

1234 Massachusetts Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20007

719 East 42nd Street  
New York, New York 10123

Note that “East,” “West,” “North,” and “South” must be spelled out.

**1.8** Other elements of addresses must be spelled out:

Post Office Box 95  
Silver Spring, Maryland 20901

Note that except in authors' addresses it is not necessary to include the country name after U.S. and Mexican states and Canadian provinces.

## USE WITH ARTICLES

- 1.9** When an acronym is read as a word, it is generally used without an article (“the,” “a,” or “an”):

In this regard, ANOVA revealed that. . . .

When it is read as a series of letters, however, it is generally used with an article:

by means of a DBA [dot blot analysis]    the CTM [critical thermal maximum]

## PLURALS

- 1.10** Abbreviations and acronyms should be considered singular and add an *s* to form the plural unless they are units of measure or inherently plural:

environmental impact statements (EISs)    means and SDs

*but* National Institutes of Health (NIH)    geographical information systems (GIS)

## 2. Capitalization

### PROPER NOUNS AND ADJECTIVES

#### 2.1 Capitalize the names of organizations:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

U.S. Government *but* Canadian government federal government

#### 2.2 Capitalize personal titles when they are used with the person's name or alone:

Secretary of the Interior Smith

the Secretary of the Interior

#### 2.3 Capitalize the formal names of programs:

the Chesapeake Bay Program *but* a habitat restoration program

#### 2.4 Do not capitalize terms relating to general concepts, even when they include a person's name:

index of biotic integrity Spearman's rank correlation coefficient

#### 2.5 Capitalize certain trade names:

Plexiglas Styrofoam

*but* formalin petri dish

To determine which trade names to capitalize, consult *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* or the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*.

Also capitalize the formal titles of software programs:

Restriction Enzyme Analysis Package

#### 2.6 Capitalize the names of ships and aircraft:

RV *Seth Gorden*

Note that only the name *per se* is italicized.

## Geographic and Geological Terms

Sections 2.7–2.14 present the general principles governing the capitalization of these terms; a more detailed list is given in Appendix D. For geographic terms that are not on that list, consult *Webster’s New Geographical Dictionary*.<sup>1</sup>

### POLITICAL DIVISIONS

#### **2.7** Capitalize all words that are parts of formal names:

Washington State *but* state of Washington

Province of Ontario *but* Canadian provinces

### TOPOGRAPHICAL AND PLACE NAMES

#### **2.8** Capitalize all words that are parts of formal names:

Catskill Mountains Colorado River Midwest North Atlantic Pacific Northwest

#### **2.9** Do not capitalize words that are purely descriptive:

Hudson River valley

Gulf coast of Texas *but* Gulf Coast [as region]

upper Mississippi River *but* Upper Peninsula [Michigan]

#### **2.10** Capitalize popular names:

Deep South

Eastern Shore [Maryland] *but* the eastern shore of Hudson Bay

West Coast [U.S.] *but* the western coast of Florida

#### **2.11** Certain structures and defined areas should be capitalized:

Grand Coulee Dam

Lock 19 Pool 12 [Mississippi River]

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<sup>1</sup> For several reasons, geographic terms sometimes have variant spellings. As far as possible, use the variants that are appropriate to American English, e.g., “Mexico” rather than the Spanish “México” (although the latter should be used in addresses and names of organizations in Spanish).

- 2.12** Do not capitalize generic terms used in the plural when they follow specific terms:

Rappahannock and Rapidan rivers *but* Lakes Erie and Ontario

Note that generic terms that are not used in the plural are capitalized even when they are part of compound expressions:

Rappahannock and Rapidan River floods

- 2.13** Do not capitalize shortened names:

the bay [referring to the previously named Chesapeake Bay]

#### GEOLOGICAL TERMS

- 2.14** With the exception noted in section 2.9, capitalize all parts of such terms:

Wisconsin Glaciation Burgess Shale

Appalachian Highlands Piedmont Province Tennessee Section

Upper Pennsylvanian Late Oligocene

#### Taxonomic Names

- 2.15** Capitalize all portions of the common names of fish species and subspecies but not those of hybrids and life history variants:

Largemouth Bass Lahontan Cutthroat Trout

*but* saugeye steelhead

Capitalize the names of genera but not those of specific epithets:

*Oncorhynchus* spp. *Ictalurus punctatus*

Capitalize the names of families, orders, classes, phyla, and kingdoms and the first component of species names:

Salmonidae *but* salmonids

Salmoniformes

## Proper Adjectives

### **2.16** Capitalize adjectives derived from proper nouns:

Mendelian North American

## OTHER USES

### **2.17** Capitalize terms such as “table,” “figure,” and “chapter” when they refer to specific items. Also capitalize terms such as “methods” and “results” when they refer to sections of a paper:

Table 1 Figure 2 Chapters 5–7

For additional details, see Methods. As noted in Results, . . .

Do not capitalize other identifying labels:

experiment 2 tank 3

### **2.18** Capitalize compass directions:

N ENE 10°6'N, 8°37'W

Note that latitude and longitude coordinates are separated by a comma and a space but that there are no spaces within the coordinates themselves.



### 3. *Italics*

- 3.1** Genus and species names should be italicized, but not those at other taxonomic levels:

*Acipenser* spp. *Esox lucius*

but Ictaluridae Salmoniformes

- 3.2** Single-letter mathematical and statistical terms should be italicized unless they are Greek letters:

$L_t$   $L_1$   $r^2$   $F$ -value  $P = 0.05$   
but  $\beta$   $\Delta$

Multiple-letter terms may be italicized or not, provided that the treatment is consistent throughout the paper.

- 3.3** All elements of gene and allele designations (but not those for the enzymes for which they code) should be italicized:

*mAAT\** *EST-1\** *\*150* *GPI-A\*1/2*

Note that the asterisks in these terms are italicized as well.

All elements of microsatellite designations except Greek letters should be italicized:

*Ssa85* *Oneμ3*

- 3.4** Certain other technical terms and abbreviations should be italicized:

*Taq* [a restriction enzyme] chlorophyll *a* *g* [gravity] *F* [fishing mortality]

See Chapter 11 and Appendix B for other such terms and abbreviations.

- 3.5** The names of ships and aircraft should be italicized (but not type designators such as “USS” and “RV”):

RV [research vessel] *Seth Gordon*

- 3.6** Non-English words should be italicized:

In French, the brook trout is known as the *omble de fontaine*.

However, words of non-English origin that have been incorporated into English should not be italicized:

barranca thalweg in vitro

All of the words in the main section of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* should be treated as English words; those in the section called "Foreign Words & Phrases" should be treated as non-English words.

**3.7** Italics may be used for emphasis provided that the use is sparing:

However, we observed this in *small* streams too. [i.e., where it was not expected]

**3.8** Words used as words should be put in quotation marks rather than italics:

In this context, the term "recruitment" means. . . .

However, letters used as letters are generally italicized:

The letter *X* marks the location of the study site.

*but* U-shaped valley

## 4. *Mathematics and Statistics*

### SYMBOLS

- 4.1** All mathematical symbols consisting of single letters from the Latin alphabet should be italicized; the same is true for the vast majority of statistical symbols. Greek letters, however, should be in ordinary type. Multiple-letter terms may be italicized or not provided that the treatment is consistent:

$$z \quad s^2 \quad W_r \quad y = f(x) \quad t\text{-test}$$

$$\beta \quad L_{\text{init}}$$

$$CPUE_t \text{ or } CPUE_t$$

Note that subscripts and superscripts are treated as separate symbols for this purpose; that is, a subscript or superscript consisting of a single letter should be italicized even if the main symbol is not, and conversely.

See Appendix A for the treatment of specific mathematical and statistical terms.

- 4.2** If punctuation follows a superscripted term, it should come after the superscript:

... a higher value of  $R^2$ , which implies ...

### LOGARITHMS

- 4.3** Logarithms are generally denoted by the abbreviation “log” with a subscript indicating the base (usually  $e$  or 10):

$$\log_e \quad \log_{10}$$

Note that  $e$  is italicized.

In the case of natural logarithms, however, “ln” may be used instead of “log <sub>$e$</sub> .”

- 4.4** As a rule, there should be no space between the terms “log <sub>$e$</sub> ” (or “ln”) and “log<sub>10</sub>” and the variables and coefficients with which they appear:

$$1.23\log_e x$$

However, if the resulting expression is awkward, spaces, center dots, and parentheses may be used for clarity:

$$7.81 \log_e x \quad 7.81 \cdot \log_e x \quad 1.23 \log_e(TL)$$

**4.5** When the term “log” is used as a prefix, it is usually followed by a hyphen:

log-likelihood function   log-linear model   log-transformed data

*but* lognormal(ity)   The data were log transformed.

However, nouns and adjectives involving “log<sub>e</sub>” (or “ln”) and “log<sub>10</sub>” are not hyphenated:

log<sub>10</sub> transformation   log<sub>e</sub> transformed data

## VECTORS AND MATRICES

**4.6** Vectors and matrices should be in bold type:

**x**   **U**

The operators in cross products (which are indicated by times signs and result in vectors) and dot products (which are indicated by center dots and result in single numbers [scalars]) should also be in bold type:

**w** × **y**   **z** · **x**

## EQUATIONS

### Formatting

**4.7** The goal in formatting equations is to present them in a readily understandable way. Two guidelines that are useful in this regard are (1) to break lines before an operator, preferably a plus or minus sign and (2) to use spacing, parentheses and their equivalents, and (in the case of multiplicative terms) center dots or times signs to group terms logically:

$$\log_e(N_i+1) = \log_e(\alpha) + \log_e(N_i) \\ - \log_e[1 + (N_i/\gamma)]^{\beta}$$

- 4.8** Variable definitions may either be run into the text or presented in a list. There are two formatting options when they are run into the text:

$$dN/dt = rN \cdot [(K - N)/K],$$

where  $N$  is the population at any given time,  $r$  is the rate of population increase, and  $K$  is the carrying capacity of the environment.

*or*

where  $N$  = the population at any given time,  $r$  = the rate of population increase, and  $K$  = the carrying capacity of the environment.

A list is preferable when there are numerous terms or they appear in more than one equation:

$$C = (M_r + M_a + \text{SDA}) + (F + U) + (G_s + G_r),$$

where

$C$  = the rate of energy consumption

$M_r$  = the standard metabolic rate

$M_a$  = the increase in metabolic rate due to activity

...

Copyeditors should note that in the list (1) variable definitions should begin one em dash from the margin, (2) the equals signs should be aligned, and (3) any overflow should be hang-indented to the right of the equals sign.

- 4.9** In mathematical expressions, the sequence { [ ( ) ] } should be used for grouping terms:

$$t = [(x_1 - x_2) - D_0] / \{s[(1/n_1) + (1/n_2)]^{1/2}\}$$

(The reverse sequence is used in ordinary text.)

## Text References

- 4.10** Numbered equations should be referred to in the text as follows:

equation (1) equations (2) and (3) equations (2)–(5)

When the reference itself appears within parentheses, the parentheses around the equation number should be omitted:

The most reliable estimates (from equation 7) . . .

## STATISTICS

- 4.11** Simple summary statistics (means, ranges, and standard deviations [SDs] or errors [SEs]) may be reported in any of several ways:

(mean, 45.2 mm) (mean = 45.2 mm) *not* (mean 45.2)

(mean, 45.2 mm; SD, 3.84) *or* (mean = 45.2 mm; SD = 3.84)  
*or*  $45.2 \pm 3.84$  (mean  $\pm$  SD)

Whichever form is used must be used consistently, however. Avoid using expressions such as

The mean total length was  $45.2 \pm 3.84$  mm.

because they are inaccurate (the mean was 45.2 mm, not  $45.2 \pm 3.84$  mm).

Note that the term “coefficient of variation” must be defined as the percentage ratio of the standard deviation (or error) to the mean:

The coefficient of variation ( $100 \cdot \text{SD}/\text{mean}$ ) was. . .

- 4.12** The results of statistical tests should be reported by giving the test statistic (and, if it is not obvious, the type of test), the degrees of freedom, and the *P*-value in the following format:

. . . were significantly different ( $\chi^2 = 13.91$ ,  $\text{df} = 26$ ,  $P < 0.001$ )

. . . were not different (ANOVA:  $F = 0.93$ ;  $\text{df} = 4, 22$ ;  $P = 0.46$ )

The degrees of freedom for *F*-statistics may also be presented as subscripts:

. . . (ANOVA:  $F_{4, 22} = 0.93$ ,  $P = 0.46$ )

Note that there should be a space after the comma separating the degrees of freedom for the numerator from the degrees of freedom for the denominator regardless of the number of digits.

- 4.13** As a rule, it is preferable to report individual *P*-values for all significant results. However, when a paper contains a large number of statistical results and distinguishing between the degrees of significance is not important, a general significance level may be reported instead:

Values were considered significant at  $\alpha < 0.05$ .

*P*-values should not be given in abstracts or in conjunction with references to results in cited works:

Smith (1998) found a significant correlation between. . .

- 4.14** The term “general linear model” encompasses several statistical methods, including linear regression, analysis of variance, and analysis of covariance, in which the errors are distributed normally.<sup>2</sup> For this reason, merely alluding to the general linear model does not provide an adequate description of the analyses performed. In particular, it is important to indicate (1) whether the analysis incorporates random as well as fixed effects and (2) whether the variables are continuous or categorical.

A fixed-effects analysis focuses on the particular factor levels or blocks included in the analysis (e.g., the relative abundance of fish in a particular set of streams, where stream is treated as a block), while controlling for other factors. By contrast, a “mixed” analysis includes both fixed and random effects by treating the blocks as being randomly selected from the set of all possible blocks (e.g., treating the sampled streams as a representative subsample of all the streams in the region of interest), again controlling for other factors.

A variable is said to be “continuous” when the data are ungrouped (e.g., fish weights), “categorical” when they are grouped (e.g., male vs. female or treated vs. untreated). An analysis with continuous variables gives insights into overall patterns (e.g., a regression trend); an analysis with categorical variables gives insights into differences among groups.

Note that some variables, such as fish age or year of sampling, may be treated as either continuous or categorical depending on the hypothesis in which one is interested, thus emphasizing the need to specify exactly how the general linear model was constructed. However the analysis is presented, the overall goal is to give readers enough information to replicate the procedure.

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<sup>1</sup> The Publications Department thanks Daniel Hayes for his contributions to this section.

<sup>2</sup> The general linear model is thus different from the *generalized* linear model, which can accommodate nonnormally distributed errors.

## 5. *Numbers and Measurements*

### NUMBERS

#### Word or Numeral?

- 5.1** As a general rule, spell out numbers less than 10 unless they are used with units of measure:

four anglers    12 boats  
4 cm    7 weeks

Note that counts (e.g., numbers of fish) are not considered measurements:

six white bass    *not*    6 white bass

#### EXCEPTIONS

- 5.2** Always spell out numbers at the beginning of a sentence; if they are used with units of measure, spell out those units as well:

Twelve repetitions were. . .    Ninety-five days later, . . .

- 5.3** Spell out numbers less than 10 that are used with units of measure (as well as the units of measure) when there are intervening words:

five abnormally cold days    seven or more centimeters

- 5.4** Spell out numbers less than 100 when they modify a compound adjective that contains a number:

ten 30-cm fish    *but*    105 30-cm fish

- 5.5** Use numerals for all numbers that apply to the same or similar items when any of those numbers are greater than nine and they occur in close proximity to one another:

4 rainbow trout and 12 striped bass    from 5 to 20 anglers    2–20 ponds

- 5.6** Use numerals for numbers used as numbers or designating items in a sequence:

The index ranges from 1 to 5.    Outcomes were coded 0 or 1.  
experiment 2    tank 3



## Precision

- 5.7** Give the same number of digits for numbers stemming from the same set of measurements or calculations:

5.73–6.10 cm *not* 5.73–6.1 cm

## Numbers with Many Digits

- 5.8** Use commas in numbers with four or more digits:

1,234 56,789.12

- 5.9** Use scientific notation for very large or small numbers:

$3.4 \times 10^6$   $1.94 \times 10^{-3}$

Note that it is acceptable to use the word “million” in a number (e.g., 3.4 million instead of  $3.4 \times 10^6$ ). Avoid using the words “billion” and “trillion,” however, because they have different meanings in different countries (e.g., 1 billion is  $10^9$  in the United States but  $10^{12}$  in the United Kingdom).

## Decimals

- 5.10** Place a zero before the decimal point in decimal numbers less than 1.00:

0.05 *not* .05

## Fractions

- 5.11** In text, spell out fractions:

one-third three fifty-fifths forty-two hundredths

## Ordinal Numbers

- 5.12** Treat ordinal numbers the same as cardinal numbers, but spell out units of measure:

third day fifth hour 22nd day 15th repetition  
every 10th meter third-order stream

Use the abbreviations “st,” “nd,” “rd,” and “th” to denote ordinal numbers; these should be on the same line as the numeral:

11th *not* 11<sup>th</sup>

## Dates and Time

### **5.13** The U.S. convention should be used for dates:

March 29, 2002 *not* 29 March 2002

Note that in text a comma follows the year:

August 11, 1999, was the peak day for mortality.

Commas should not be used when only the month and year are given:

June 2001 *not* June, 2001

### **5.14** Time should always be given in terms of the 24-hour clock:

0800 hours 1545 hours

Note that the plural “hours” is always used and that it is never abbreviated:

0030 hours *not* 0030 hour *or* 0030 h

## MEASUREMENTS

### English or Metric Units?

### **5.15** The term “metric units” refers to the units of measure included in the International System of Units established in 1960.

Metric units must be used in AFS books and *Fisheries* as well as in *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society*, the *Journal of Aquatic Animal Health*, and *Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science*. Either English or metric units may be used in the *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* and the *North American Journal of Aquaculture* as long as one set of units is used consistently.

A list of acceptable units is given on the page entitled “Symbols and Abbreviations” in the back of each journal as well as in Appendix B.

## EXCEPTIONS

- 5.16** English units may be used in lieu of metric units when the English measure is the one most commonly used, as is frequently the case with construction materials and some pieces of equipment. To the extent that it is practical, provide a metric equivalent or conversion factor:

¼-in (0.635-cm) screw    100 hp (1 hp = 746 W)

- 5.17** Units may be mixed when this is the common practice:

grams of medication per pound of feed (g/lb)

## Abbreviations

- 5.18** In text, units of measure are generally abbreviated (unless there is no abbreviation) when preceded by a number and spelled out otherwise:

3 km    *but*    a few kilometers  
7 g    *but*    measured in grams

Lists of acceptable abbreviations appear at the back of each journal and at the front of all symposium proceedings. See Chapter 1 for more details.

The following units are always spelled out:

acre    ton    year    month    week

Note that there are no separate plural forms for abbreviated units of measure:

1 km    8 km

- 5.19** Units of measure that stand alone may be abbreviated when they appear in parenthetical expressions:

Fish were weighed (g). . . .  
*but*    Fish were weighed to the nearest gram. . . .

- 5.20** Avoid mixing words and abbreviations:

six boats per day    *or*    6 boats/d  
  
*not*  
  
six boats/d    six boats per d    *or*    6 boats per day

Note that “6 boats/d” is acceptable even though the first term would ordinarily be expressed as “six boats.”

## Operators

- 5.21** Operators such as =, >, and < may be used in straight text as well as in parenthetical expressions:

Fish weighed  $2.9 \pm 0.35$  kg.

Values were deemed significant at  $\alpha \leq 0.05$ .

Trophy length fish (>380 mm). . . .

Space is required around operators when the term in parentheses expresses a complete thought:

(length  $\leq 10$  cm) *but* length ( $\leq 10$  cm)

## Sequences and Ranges

- 5.22** The unit of measure should be given only once if the measurement is written with a space between the number and the unit of measure:

from 6 to 10 mm in length 5, 6, or 7 mm in length

If the measurement is written with no space between the number and the unit of measure, the unit should be repeated when there are only two measurements but given only once when there are three or more:

between 2% and 4% *but* 5, 6, and 7%, respectively

- 5.23** Ranges may be expressed in any of the following ways:

from 72 to 84 s between 72 and 84 s 72–84 s

*not* from 72–84 s

Note that the rule for repeating units of measure is analogous to that in section 5.22:

between 10°C and 12°C *but* 10–12°C

## Monetary Values

**5.24** Indicate the national currency the first time a monetary value is given:

US\$50,000 Can\$25,000

Consult the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* for other currencies and their abbreviations.

## Ratios

**5.25** Certain ratios are expressed by a colon:

(1:3, male : female) 12 h light : 12 h dark

strontium : calcium Sr:Ca

Note that there should be spaces around the colon when it is either preceded or followed by a whole word.

**5.26** More commonly, ratios are expressed by forward slashes:

4.29 mg/L

When there is more than one term in the denominator, negative exponents should be used instead of forward slashes:

$15 \text{ g} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{d}^{-1}$

To prevent an expression from becoming unwieldy, it may be preferable to rewrite it:

$15 \text{ g/m}^2$  daily

## Concentrations

**5.27** At first mention, concentrations should be stated precisely:

1  $\mu\text{g}$  of gentamicin/mL of water

However, if there is no possibility of misunderstanding, the shortened form

1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  gentamicin

may be used instead. After the first mention, the still more concise form

1  $\mu\text{g/mL}$

may be used.

A similar rule applies to the use of the term “solution”:

in a 10% solution of formalin

should be used at first mention and

in 10% formalin

thereafter.

- 5.28** When metric units are required, parts per thousand, parts per million, and parts per billion should be expressed as in the following table, depending on whether the concentration refers to weight per unit of volume, weight per unit of weight, or volume per unit of volume (note that 1 L of water weighs 1 kg):

Concentration	Weight : volume	Weight : weight	Volume : volume
Parts per thousand	g/L (mg/mL)	g/kg (mg/g)	mL/L (μL/mL)
Parts per million	mg/L (μg/mL)	mg/kg (μg/g)	μL/L (nL/mL)
Parts per billion	μg/L (ng/mL)	μg/kg (ng/g)	nL/L (pL/mL)

- 5.29** Salinity is usually expressed either as parts per thousand (i.e., grams per liter of water) or as the ratio of the conductivity of the water in question to that of a standard potassium chloride solution. The latter is known as the practical salinity scale and has no units. When salinity is expressed as parts per thousand, the per mille symbol (‰) should be used:

Seawater has a salinity of 30–33‰.

When it is expressed in terms of the practical salinity scale, authors should note that fact. Alternatively, they may indicate that salinity is given in “practical salinity units” or psu.

- 5.30** Blood volumes, which are usually measured in cubic centimeters (cc), should be expressed in milliliters (1 cc = 1 mL); deciliters (1 dL = 10 mL) are also acceptable.

#### River Kilometers

- 5.31** Locations along a river are usually stated in terms of the number of river kilometers from a given point:

At river kilometer (rkm [*or* RKM]) 95 of the Ohio River (measuring from its confluence with the Mississippi River), . . .

Note that the term “river kilometer” must be spelled out at first mention and that the “origin” (i.e., the 0-rkm point) must be stated.

Distance traveled along a river should be stated in terms of kilometers alone:

We moved 4 km upriver [e.g., from rkm 95 to rkm 99] to the next sampling site.

## Geographic Coordinates

**5.32** Geographic coordinates may be expressed either in the conventional degrees–minutes–seconds format or as decimal degrees:

$45^{\circ}50'28.9386''\text{N}$ ,  $121^{\circ}56'43.6668''\text{W}$

*or*

$45.841372^{\circ}$ ,  $-121.945463^{\circ}$

Note that compass directions (N, W, etc.) are not used with decimal degrees.

The precision with which geographic coordinates are reported should be determined by their purpose, i.e., how much detail the reader requires.

## 6. Punctuation

By and large, AFS publications follow the *Chicago Manual of Style* in matters of punctuation. In addition to noting basic rules of punctuation, this chapter highlights (1) areas in which AFS style differs from that in the *Chicago Manual* and (2) situations that are apt to cause difficulty for authors.

### PUNCTUATION MARKS

#### Colons

- 6.1** When emphasis is desired, a colon may be used to introduce a secondary clause that is closely related to the main clause:

This approach often leads to a serious problem: noncomparable data.

The results are quite clear: recruitment is a function of stream temperature.

Note that the secondary clause need not be complete and that the first word is not capitalized even when the clause is complete.

- 6.2** A colon may also be used to introduce a list, provided that it does not come between a verb and its object(s) or after an expression like “such as” and “namely”:

The following treatments were administered: x, y, and z.

The treatments were x, y, and z. *not* The treatments were: x, y, and z.

Certain substrates were preferred: sand, gravel, and cobble.

*but* Certain substrates were preferred, namely, sand, gravel, and cobble.

- 6.3** In scientific papers, colons are often used to indicate ratios (see section 5.25):

strontium : calcium   Sr:Ca   1:1  
12 h light : 12 h dark

#### Commas

- 6.4** Commas should be used after each item in a series of three or more items:

egg, alevin, and fry stages *not* egg, alevin and fry stages



- 6.5** With the exception noted in section 6.7, commas should be used after long introductory phrases:

After an acclimation period of 72 h, the fish. . .

They may be omitted after short introductory phrases, however:

One week later the fish. . .

By 1999 the situation had changed.

- 6.6** With the exception noted in section 6.7, commas should be used to separate independent clauses that are joined by the words “and,” “but,” “for,” “or,” “so,” and “yet”:

Previous research suggested that survival was density dependent, and our findings strongly support that conclusion.

Commas should not be used when one clause shares its subject with another clause:

We collected additional data and performed an analysis of variance on the expanded data set.

- 6.7** Commas should not be used after introductory phrases that are associated with the second independent clause in a compound sentence or to separate independent clauses with a common introductory phrase:

Specimens were obtained by gill netting, and although the samples were not as large as expected they were adequate for our purposes.

At the laboratory, DNA samples were extracted from the fish and electrophoresis was performed to determine whether the populations were genetically distinct.

- 6.8** Semicolons should be used instead of commas to separate independent clauses that are joined by one of the following adverbs:

also	anyway	besides	consequently
finally	furthermore	hence	however
incidentally	indeed	instead	likewise
meanwhile	moreover	nevertheless	next
otherwise	still	then	therefore
thus			

Tests showed no significant differences between groups 1 and 2; therefore, these groups were pooled in subsequent analyses.

**6.9** Commas may be used with appositives (i.e., two terms referring to the same thing) and material of a parenthetical nature:

The dependent variable,  $y_t$ , was defined as. . . .

The study area, which comprises all or part of three administrative districts, . . .

In some cases, however, it may be preferable to put such material within parentheses per se.

Ellipses (Sequences of dots)

**6.10** Ellipses are used to indicate omissions in quotations:

“Fisheries management draws on bioenergetics, genetics, . . . , and other specialties.”  
“This finding was considered definitive. . . .”

Note that the dots are separated by spaces and that four dots are used when the omission occurs at the end of a sentence.

Em and En Dashes

**6.11** Dashes of two different lengths serve different purposes in formal writing. The longer ones, which are called em dashes, are used to emphasize material of a parenthetical nature:

Determining the toxicity to fish—the principal goal of the experiment—was problematical.

**6.12** The shorter ones, which are called en dashes, are mainly used to indicate a range of numbers or other sequential items:

6–10 mm   May–July 1996

Note, however, that hyphens are used with nonsequential numbers:

Project 83-465

**6.13** In AFS publications, en dashes are also used as a replacement for “and,” “to,” and “at” in compounds:

Beverton–Holt   length–weight relationship   University of Wisconsin–Madison

Hyphens should be used in compounds not involving “and,” “to,” or “at”:

length-frequency analysis [i.e., of the frequency distribution of lengths]  
Smith-Root [compound legal name]

## Forward Slashes

- 6.14** In ordinary text (as opposed to mathematical expressions and special symbols), a forward slash is equivalent to the word “or.” It may be used in this sense in AFS publications:

morbidity/mortality

It should never be used as a substitute for the word “and,” however:

lakes and rivers *not* lakes/rivers

## Hyphens

- 6.15** Hyphens are used primarily in (1) compound words, (2) compound names, (3) grant and project numbers, and (4) chemical names:

gill-net fishery clear-cut areas *P*-value

Cavalli-Sforza

grant GB-6708 Project FWS-97-12

glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase 2,4-D

See Chapter 10 and Appendix A for additional information on the use of hyphens in compound words; see sections 6.12–6.13 for situations in which en dashes are used instead of hyphens.

## Parentheses

- 6.16** Parentheses may be used to provide subsidiary information or indicate the equivalence between terms:

Our goal (in addition to bringing the existing time series up to date) was to obtain more detailed data on Striped Bass.

Fish without this genetic marker (hereafter, “strays”). . . .

Parentheses are particularly useful in long or complex sentences.

## Semicolons

- 6.17** The most common use of semicolons is to connect closely related clauses:

The finding of . . . was highly unusual; as a result, we. . . .

See section 6.8 for additional information on this use of the semicolon.

- 6.18** Semicolons may also be used to separate items in a list when the items are numerous or contain commas:

We obtained fish samples from the following reaches (indicated by river kilometers): 67–73, which is free-flowing; 47–51, which is impounded by the dam; and 6–11, which is largely regulated by dam operations.

- 6.19** In AFS publications, semicolons are also used to separate citations and to separate closely related items from others within parentheses:

(Smith 1999; Thompson 2001)

( $F_{1, 29} = 7.98$ ,  $P = 0.034$ ; Table 1)

## USE WITH QUOTATION MARKS, ITALICS, AND BOLDFACE

- 6.20** In expressions involving quotation marks, periods and commas are always placed inside the quotation marks and colons and semicolons are always placed outside of them. Dashes, question marks, and exclamation points are placed inside the quotation marks when they are part of the quoted material and outside when they apply to the entire sentence (see the examples in section 7.4)

- 6.21** Punctuation marks should be in ordinary type even when they come immediately after terms in italic or boldface type:

. . . populations of rainbow trout *O. mykiss*, which. . .

. . . the variance–covariance matrix  $\mathbf{X}'\mathbf{X}^{-1}$ .

## LISTS

Lists of the variables in a mathematical expression are dealt with in section 4.8.

Other lists may either be run into the text or set off from it in one or more columns. In either format, the items must be grammatically the same (e.g., all nouns, verbal phrases, complete sentences, and so forth). The items may be numbered or bulleted if this facilitates comprehension, but letters may not be used.

- 6.22** A run-in list forms a natural part of a sentence:

The study had three goals: (1) to determine overall species richness in the lower portion of the river, (2) to determine the distribution of individual species by habitat type, and (3) to identify any changes in species richness and distribution since the construction of the dam.

Run-in lists are most appropriate when the number of items is small. If numbers are used, they should be enclosed in parentheses; semicolons may be substituted for commas when there are commas within the items themselves (see section 6.18).

- 6.23** A column (or vertical) list is introduced by a complete clause and generally followed by a colon. The format of the list itself varies according to the length and complexity of the items in it. Simple lists require no numbering or punctuation:

The student volunteers were asked to bring the following:

rain gear  
insect repellent  
a change of clothing  
...

Note the blank line after the lead-in.

More complex lists should be numbered or bulleted:

Four management recommendations emerge from this study:

1. Increasing the minimum length limit
2. Shortening the fishing season
- ...

The following lakes are characterized by extreme acidification:

- Beaver
- Williams
- White Rock
- ...

Numbers are preferable if the number or sequence of the items is important. Note that numbers are followed by periods and that the first letter of each item in the list is capitalized.

If the items in a vertical list are an integral part of the sentence, they should be separated by semicolons with a period after the last one:

The procedure consists of

1. sampling the entire length of the creek right after ice-out;
2. sampling the shallower portions during the spring spawning season; and
3. sampling the deeper portions in late summer.

Note that in this case the first letter of each item is not capitalized.

## 7. Quotations

### FORMAT

- 7.1** Quotations of three printed lines or less should be placed directly in the text and indicated by double quotation marks:

Smith (2000) found “a significant degree of hybridization” among the fish at this location.

- 7.2** Quotations of more than three printed lines should be set as block quotations that are separated from the text (copy editors should identify them as block quotations and mark them to be indented and set in smaller type [e.g., 8/9.5 when the text is 9/11]):

Thompson et al. (1999:57) reported that

[t]he incidence of parasitic infection was significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) greater in Brown Bullheads *Ameiurus nebulosus* from Hopkins Pond than in those from the Schuylkill River. However, the relationship between pollution and parasitic infection was unclear in the small samples that were taken.

Page numbers (57 in the above example) may be given as an aid to readers but are not required.

Note that such quotations are “run into” the text and punctuated accordingly.

Citations for block quotations may also be put in brackets at the end; see section 8.10 for an example.

### PUNCTUATION

- 7.3** Place periods and commas inside quotation marks, colons and semicolons outside.
- 7.4** Place dashes, question marks, and exclamation points inside quotation marks when they are part of the quoted material, outside when they apply to the entire sentence:

Many researchers have asked the question, “How do we proceed in the face of such uncertainties?”

How should fisheries biologists “sample efficiently”?

Note that no period is necessary in the first example.

## SPECIAL USAGE OF WORDS

- 7.5** Words used as words or in an unusual context may be put within double quotation marks (not italics or single quotation marks):

The term “eutrophic” generally refers to waters with excess nutrients.

These XX “males” were then allowed to breed with normal females.

When a word is used in an unusual context, it should only be put within quotation marks the first time it occurs.

## 8. References

- 8.1** AFS publications use the author–date system for references, with brief parenthetical citations in the text and full references in an alphabetical list at the end:

Text: . . . similar findings (Gorman and Karr 1978).

Mills (1989) states that. . .

Reference list: Gorman, O. T., and J. R. Karr. 1978. Habitat structure and stream fish communities. *Ecology* 59:507–515.

Mills, D. H. 1989. Ecology and management of Atlantic Salmon. Chapman and Hall, London.

If there are two authors, the last names of both of them should be included in the text citation; if there are more than two, include the last name of the first author followed by “et al.”

### CITATIONS IN TEXT

#### Arrangement

- 8.2** When there is more than one citation for a particular statement, list them (1) chronologically, beginning with the oldest (with “in press” and “unpublished” sources at the end), and then (2) alphabetically within years (with citations containing “and” and “et al.” in alphabetical order):

(Roberts 1985; Johnson 1987; Berger, in press)  
(Eldridge 1989; Smith 1992; Smith and Thomas 1992)

*Exception:* Group publications by the same author or authors together, even if this violates the rule about chronological listing:

(Roberts 1992, 1997; Smith 1996)

- 8.3** Use lowercase letters to distinguish multiple publications by an author or authors in the same year:

(Hansen et al. 1997a, 1997b)

See section 8.48 for the order in which such publications should appear in the reference list and the assignment of lowercase letters to them.



## Special Situations

### ABSTRACTS

- 8.4** Abstracts of papers presented at meetings are not acceptable as references in AFS publications. Such material should be treated as unpublished (see sections 8.13–8.17).

### NO DATE

- 8.5** Publications for which no date is available should be listed before those that are in press:

(Harrison 1987; Stein, no date; Bailey, in press)

### REFERENCE NOT SEEN

- 8.6** When the author has not actually seen the source in question, this must be indicated:

(Berzins 1960, cited by Grande et al. 1978)

### PAGE NUMBERS

- 8.7** Page numbers may be included in a citation when the material referred to would otherwise be hard to locate:

(Zar 1984:286–291)

### PAPERS IN THE SAME ISSUE OR BOOK

- 8.8** When a cited paper is in the same book or issue of a journal as the one citing it, this should be indicated:

(Robson 1991, this volume) (Li and Moyle 1991, this issue)  
(Miller and Drake 1991; Smith 1991; both this issue)

### PARENTHETICAL MATERIAL

- 8.9** Additional text may be included with citations:

(see Hayes et al. 2000 for a review)  
(e.g., Moseley 1999)

However, care must be taken not to confuse results from the cited source with those from the present paper:

(Table 3 [in present paper]; Williams 1990) *but* (Table 3 in Williams 1990)

... in many salmonid diseases (e.g., whirling disease: Carroll 1998)

The colon in the second example makes it clear that it was Carroll who studied whirling disease rather than the author of the present paper.

#### BLOCK QUOTATIONS

- 8.10** The citation for a block quotation may be given either in the text (see section 7.2) or in brackets following the quotation:

. . . when the salmon are out of season and unfit for use. [From Thwaites 1904.]

#### TABLE AND FIGURE CAPTIONS

- 8.11** Citations may appear in table and figure captions with additional text as necessary:

FIGURE 1.—Proportional stock densities for Largemouth Bass. (Source: Lehman et al. 1987.)

TABLE 1.—Length frequency distributions for principal species at Spirit Lake. (Adapted from Klein 1996.)

#### SERIES OF REFERENCES WITH THE SAME TITLE

- 8.12** A series of reports or articles with essentially the same title but different years of publication may be combined in citations and reference lists:

Text: (USGS 1966–1984)

Reference list: USGS (U.S. Geological Survey). 1966–1984. Water resource data, Connecticut, water years 1966–1984, 19 reports. USGS, Geological Survey Water-Data Reports CT-66-1 to CT-84-1, Washington, D.C.

#### UNPUBLISHED MATERIAL

- 8.13** If the source is either the single author of the present paper or all of several authors, unpublished material may be cited in any of the following ways:

(my [our] unpublished data) (author's [authors'] unpublished data)  
(author [authors], unpublished data [on file])

Note that the same format is used for the first mention and any subsequent ones.

- 8.14** If the source is one of several authors of the present paper, the permissible formats are as follows:

First mention: (Carl B. [or C. B.] Schreck, unpublished)  
unpublished data collected by one of us (C.B.S.)  
ms 1986, and unpublished)

Subsequent mentions: (Schreck, unpublished) (C.B.S., unpublished)

There are a couple of things to note about such citations: (1) when only the author's initials are given, they should be closed up; and (2) in citations like "(Adams 1986, and unpublished)" it is not necessary to include the author's last name or initials before the word "unpublished" but the word "and" is needed to make it clear that there are two citations (one published and one not).

- 8.15** If the source is not an author of the present paper, the person's affiliation must be given at first mention:

(J. Magnuson, University of Wisconsin, personal communication)

(L. A. Smith, Washington Department of Fisheries, unpublished data)

(J. Hawks, University of Kansas, and N. Lyons, Pennsylvania State University, personal communication[s])

- 8.16** If the source consists of fewer than four people, all of them should be named; otherwise only the first should be named, with a descriptive reference to the others:

(V. Ross, B. Reed, and C. Rolls, University of Virginia, unpublished data) [fewer than four people]

*but*

(V. Ross and coworkers, University of Virginia, unpublished data) [four or more people]

- 8.17** Memoranda, internal reports, papers presented at meetings, and similar unpublished material should be cited as follows:

First mention: (A. H. Townsend, 1983 memorandum to B. H. Baker, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, on sportfishing and placer mining)

Data of S. L. Abidi (paper read at the American Chemical Society meeting, 1980)

Subsequent mentions: (Townsend, memorandum) (Abidi, unpublished)

## REFERENCE LISTS

- 8.18** References should be listed alphabetically by authors' last names. If there is more than one reference with the same authors, those references should be listed chronologically.

Smith, R. C. 1992. Spawning patterns in. . .

Smith, R. C., J. B. Oldham, and W. F. Stone. 1998. Determinants of. . .

Smith, R. C., and H. Thompson. 1995. Observations on. . .

Smith, R. C., and H. Thompson. 1997. Additional observations on. . .

All authors should be named in references, even if there is a large number of them.

## Journals

### **8.19** The general formats for journals and other professional periodicals are as follows:

Hochachka, P. W. 1990. Scope for survival: a conceptual “mirror” to Fry’s scope for activity. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 119:622–628.

Kennedy, V. S. 1990. Anticipated effects of climate change on estuarine and coastal fisheries. *Fisheries* 15(6):16–24.

Whenever possible, AFS publications use the journal names given in the latest edition of *BIOSIS Serial Sources* (BIOSIS, Philadelphia).

Note that the issue number (i.e., “6” in the second example) must be included when each issue of the publication is paginated separately, as *Fisheries* was prior to 2006.

## CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

### **8.20** Conference proceedings that appear in *BIOSIS Serial Sources* are treated like journals; other conference proceedings are treated like books (see section 8.22).

Ansell, A. D. 1961. Egg capsules of the dogfish (*Scylliorhinus canicula* Linn.) bored by *Natica* (Gastropoda: Prosobranchia). *Proceedings of the Malacological Society of London* 34:248–249. [journal format]

Hashegan, K., editor. 1978. *Proceedings of a national symposium on wild trout management*. California Trout, San Francisco. [book format]

Note that in the case of proceedings treated as books the place of publication is the location of the organization sponsoring the conference, not that of the conference itself.

### **8.21** One frequently cited proceedings, that of the annual meeting of the Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, generally appears a year or two after the meeting. To avoid confusion, references to this periodical should include the year of the meeting after the volume number:

Ott, R. A. 1987. Cost . . . impoundment. *Proceedings of the Annual Conference Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies* 39(1985):80–85.

If only the year of the meeting is known, use that as the year of publication and do not give a year after the volume number.

Note that from 1947 to 1975 this organization was known as the Southeastern Association of Game and Fish Commissioners and should be named as such in references (proceedings before 1954 should be treated as unpublished).

## Books

### **8.22** The general formats for books are as follows:

Brönmark, C., and L.-A. Hansson. 1998. *The biology of lakes and ponds*. Oxford University Press, New York.

Murphy, B. R., and D. W. Willis, editors. 1996. *Fisheries techniques*, 2nd edition. American Fisheries Society, Bethesda, Maryland.

Hutchinson, G. E. 1975. *A treatise on limnology*, volume 1, part 1. *Geography and physics of lakes*. Wiley, New York.

Note that in titles the only words that should be capitalized are the first word and other words that would be capitalized in ordinary text. The number of pages should not be given.

In publishers' names, nonessential terms such as "Company," "Inc.," and "Ltd" should be omitted.

When the city of publication is well known, the name of the state or country in which it is located should be omitted; see section 8.47 for details.

### **8.23** When a book has been reprinted without revision, this must be indicated:

Piper, R. G., I. B. McElwain, L. E. Orme, J. P. McCraren, L. G. Fowler, and J. R. Leonard. 1982. *Fish hatchery management*. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. (4th printing, 1989).

Darwin, C. 1859. *Origin of species*. Reprint 1982, J. W. Burrow, editor. Penguin Books, London.

## SPECIAL AFS PUBLICATIONS

### **8.24** In addition to books, AFS publishes lengthy monographs, symposia proceedings, and other, special publications, references to which are formatted as follows:

Waters, T. F. 1995. *Sediment in streams: sources, biological effects, and control*. American Fisheries Society, Monograph 7, Bethesda, Maryland.

Coutant, C. C., editor. 2001. *Behavioral technologies for fish guidance*. American Fisheries Society, Symposium 26, Bethesda, Maryland.

P. L. Fuller, L. G. Nico, and J. D. William. 1999. *Nonindigenous fishes introduced into inland waters of the United States*. American Fisheries Society, Special Publication 27, Bethesda, Maryland.

Note that the number of the monograph, symposium volume, and so forth is sufficient; designations such as “number” and “no.” should be omitted.

- 8.25** The various chapters, divisions, and sections of AFS also publish proceedings and other book-length documents, some of which are part of the Special Publications series and others of which are stand-alone. References to the former are formatted as indicated in section 8.24; references to the latter are formatted as follows:

Howell, P. J., and D. V. Buchanan, editors. 1992. Proceedings of the Gearhart Mountain Bull Trout workshop. American Fisheries Society, Oregon Chapter, Corvallis.

Esocid Technical Committee. 1992. Synopsis of research and management. American Fisheries Society, North Central Division, Bethesda, Maryland.

Starnes, L. B., editor. 1985. Fish and wildlife relationships to mining: symposium proceedings. American Fisheries Society, Water Quality Section, Bethesda, Maryland.

#### THE “BLUE BOOK”

- 8.26** References to the Fish Health Section’s “Blue Book” should be formatted as follows:

Mitchell, A., and A. Goodwin. 2004. Centrocestiasis (gill trematode disease). *In* AFS–FHS (American Fisheries Society–Fish Health Section). FHS blue book: suggested procedures for the detection and identification of certain finfish and shellfish pathogens, 2012 edition. AFS–FHS, Bethesda, Maryland.

Since 2003, the Blue Book has only been available on CD-ROM; both the print and CD-ROM versions should be formatted as shown above, however.

#### Chapters within Books

- 8.27** The general format is as follows:

Lofgren, B. M. 2002. Global warming influences on water levels, ice, and chemical and biological cycles in lakes: some examples. Pages 15–22 *in* N. A. McGinn, editor. Fisheries in a changing climate. American Fisheries Society, Symposium 32, Bethesda, Maryland.

*not*

Lofgren, B. M. 2002. Global warming influences on water levels, ice, and chemical and biological cycles in lakes: some examples. American Fisheries Society Symposium 32:15–22.

#### Reports

- 8.28** Reports that are included in *BIOSIS Serial Sources* (because they are issued as part of a regular series) are treated much as other periodicals:

Everest, F. H., C. E. McLemore, and J. F. Ward. 1980. An improved tri-tube cryogenic gravel sampler. U.S. Forest Service Research Note PNW-350.

**8.29** The general format for other reports is as follows:

USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 1986. Quality criteria for water. USEPA, Report 440/5-86-001, Washington, D.C.

May, B., and R. Zubik. 1985. Quantitative. . . . Annual Report to the Bonneville Power Administration, Project 83-465, Portland, Oregon.

For reports by government agencies, use the name of the agency that appears on the title page of the report. As a rule, it is not necessary to give all of the organizational levels:

National Park Service

*not* U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service.

When it is desirable to give more than one level, however, they should be listed from largest to smallest:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Ocean Service

Capitalize terms such as “Final Report” and “Completion Report” that pertain to final, published documents; do not capitalize terms such as “preliminary report” and “draft report,” which pertain to what is essentially gray literature. Where relevant, provide project numbers.

FEDERAL AID IN (SPORT) FISH RESTORATION ACT REPORTS

**8.30** Reports stemming from projects funded by the Federal Aid in Fish Restoration Act (popularly known as the Dingell–Johnson Act) and its successor, the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act (the Wallop–Breau Act), should be listed as follows:

Anderson, R. 1978. Age . . . Kamloops. Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Federal Aid in Fish Restoration, Projects F-53-R-12 and F-53-R-13, Final Report, Boise.

Zuerlein, G. 1984. Statewide fishing survey. Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration, Project F-73-R, Final Report, Lincoln.

Note that the publisher is always the state agency to which the grant was awarded. Study and job numbers may be included after the project number but are not required.

SEA GRANT REPORTS

**8.31** A few of the reports stemming from projects funded by the National Sea Grant College Program are listed in *BIOSIS Serial Sources* and should be formatted accordingly. The general format for other such reports is as follows:

Hewett, S. W., and B. L. Johnson. 1987. A generalized bioenergetics model of fish growth for microcomputers. University of Wisconsin, Sea Grant Institute, Technical Report WIS-SG-87-245, Madison.

Kapuscinski, A. R., and L. D. Jacobson. 1987. Genetic guidelines for fisheries management. University of Minnesota, Minnesota Sea Grant College Program, Sea Grant Research Report 17, Duluth.

Note that because the different institutions receiving Sea Grant funds name and number their reports in different ways, there is no standardized nomenclature for these reports.

## Legal Documents

### FEDERAL LAWS

- 8.32** There are three stages to the publication of a federal law: (1) upon enactment, it is published as a “slip” law; thereafter, it is incorporated into (2) *United States Statutes at Large*, which is updated annually, and (3) the *United States Code*, which is updated every 6 years. The appropriate reference thus depends on the particular stage of publication:

Fisheries Preservation Act of 1998. Public Law 723, 105th Congress, 2nd session (22 April 1998). [slip law]

Fisheries Preservation Act of 1998. U.S. Statutes at Large 111:1012–1025.

Fisheries Preservation Act of 1998. U.S. Code, volume 36, sections 1876–1884.

In each case the text citation would be as follows:

(Fisheries Preservation Act of 1998)

If the title of the act does not include the year of passage, provide that in the citation and reference:

(National Environmental Policy Act 1970)

National Environmental Policy Act. 1970. U.S. Code, volume 42, sections 4321–4347.

### FEDERAL REGULATIONS AND OTHER U.S. OFFICE OF THE FEDERAL REGISTER PUBLICATIONS

- 8.33** References to the Code of Federal Regulations should be formatted as follows:

U.S. Office of the Federal Register. 1987. Good laboratory practice for nonclinical laboratory studies. Code of Federal Regulations, Title 21, Part 210. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C.

- 8.34** References to items appearing in the *Federal Register* should be formatted as follows:

U.S. Office of the Federal Register. 1983. Establishment of Sonoma County Green Valley Viticultural Area, final rule (T.D. ATF-161). Federal Register 48:125(21 November 1983):52577–52578.



USEPA (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). 1985. Ambient water quality criteria for dissolved oxygen: freshwater aquatic life. *Federal Register* 50:10(7 April 1985):15634–15668.

#### STATE LAWS

**8.35** References to codified state laws should be formatted as follows:

Fish Habitat Expansion Act. 2004. Code of Maryland, section 1234.5678.

References to uncoded laws should generally follow the format for federal slip laws (section 8.32), providing enough information to enable the reader to locate the source.

#### COURT DECISIONS

**8.36** References to court decisions should follow standard legal format except that the date should appear right after the name of the case:

Hill v. TVA. 1977. 549 F.2d 1074 (6th Cir.)

The corresponding text citation would be

(Hill v. TVA 1977)

#### OTHER LEGAL DOCUMENTS

**8.37** References to congressional hearings should be formatted as follows:

U.S. House of Representatives (Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, Subcommittee on National Parks and Public Lands). 1992. Joint oversight hearing on the administration's response to the spotted owl crisis (102nd Congress, 2nd session, March 24).

The corresponding text citation would be

(U.S. House of Representatives 1992)

References to congressional reports should be formatted as follows:

U.S. House of Representatives. 1969. [title of report]. House Report 91-382 (91st Congress, 1st session).

The text citation would be

(U.S. House of Representatives 1969)

References to executive orders should follow the formats for the *Federal Register* (section 8.34) or the *United States Code* (section 8.32), depending on their stage of publication.

## Comments

### **8.38** The formats for comments vary somewhat, depending on the treatment in the source journal:

Beschta, R. L. 1982. Comment on “Stream system evaluation . . .,” by M. A. Shirazi and W. K. Seim. *Water Resources Research* 18:1292–1295.

Vladykov, V. D., and E. Kott. 1982. Comment on Reeve M. Bailey’s view of lamprey systematics: Comment. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 39:1215–1217.

Bailey, R. M. 1982. Comment on Reeve M. Bailey’s view of lamprey systematics: Reply. *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences* 39:1217–1220.

## Book Reviews

### **8.39** References to book reviews should be formatted as follows:

Hubbs, C. 1983. Review of “Handbook of darters,” by L. M. Page. *Copeia* 1983:581.

## Magazines and Newspapers

### **8.40** References to popular magazines and newspapers should be formatted as follows:

Tucker, J. W., Jr. 1985. Sheepshead. . . . *Tropical Fish Hobbyist* (January):64–65, 68.

Larsen, R. 1986. Forestry and fisheries. *Seattle Times* (February 9):A21, A27.

Saving the ocean. 2012. *Washington Intelligencer* (May 21):A30.

Note that individual page numbers are required when the pagination is discontinuous.

## Theses and Dissertations

### **8.41** The general formats are as follows:

Chitwood, J. B. 1976. The effects of threadfin shad as a forage species for Largemouth Bass in combination with Bluegill, Redear, and other forage species. Master’s thesis. Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama.

Hartman, K. J. 1993. Striped Bass, Bluefish, and Weakfish in the Chesapeake Bay: energetics, trophic linkages, and bioenergetics model applications. Doctoral dissertation. University of Maryland, College Park.

## Electronic Publications

- 8.42** If a book, report, magazine, or newspaper is only available online or is available in print form but was accessed online, format the reference as you would for printed matter:

Baldwin, N. A., R. W. Saalfeld, M. R. Dochoda, H. J. Buettner, and R. L. Eshenroder. 2000. Commercial fish production in the Great Lakes, 1867–1996. Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Saving the ocean. 2012. Washington Intelligencer (May 21).

Universal resource locator (URL) addresses may be given for sources that would otherwise be difficult to locate, but they should be omitted otherwise.

- 8.43** The format for references to sources only available on CD-ROM is as follows:

Clarke, K. D., and D. A. Scruton. 1999. Observations of juvenile Atlantic Salmon *Salmo salar* behaviour under low temperatures in an artificial stream. *In* Proceedings of the Third International Symposium on Ecohydraulics (CD-ROM). International Association of Hydraulic Research, Salt Lake City, Utah.

- 8.44** If a journal is available in print form, use the standard reference format even if you accessed the article online:

Vinson, M. R., E. C. Dinger, and D. K. Vinson. 2010. Piscicides and invertebrates: after 70 years, does anyone really know? *Fisheries* 35:61–71.

If a journal is only available in electronic form, the format depends on the information given for the individual articles:

Gallagher, M. B., and S. S. Heppell. 2010. Essential habitat identification for age-0 rockfish along the central Oregon coast. *Marine and Coastal Fisheries: Dynamics, Management, and Ecosystem Science* [online serial] 2:60–72.

Boakes, E. H., P. J. K. McGowan, R. A. Fuller, D. Chang-qing, N. E. Clark, K. O'Connor, and G. M. Mace. 2010. Distorted views of biodiversity: spatial and temporal bias in species occurrence data. *PLoS (Public Library of Science) Biology* [online serial] 8(6).

Kimmerer, W. J. 2004. Open-water processes of the San Francisco Estuary: from physical forcing to biological responses. *San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science* [online serial] 2(1):article 1.

As suggested by the examples above, references should include as much of the standard information as possible (such as volume, issue, and page numbers) as well as the designation “[online serial].” Digital object identifiers (DOIs) should only be included for articles still in press.

Databases should be cited as follows:

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission. 2015. PTAGIS (Columbia Basin PIT Tag Information System) [online database]. Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, Portland, Oregon.  
Available: [www.ptagis.org](http://www.ptagis.org).

The “author” should be the organization(s) that maintain(s) the database; if there are more than five such organizations, use the name of the database as the author. The year should be the year in which the database was accessed. If additional information is necessary to enable readers to locate the exact source, it may be given in the text citation.

Software packages should be noted only in the text; see section 13.3.

## Patents

**8.45** References to patents should be formatted as follows:

Klesius, P. H., C. A. Shoemaker, and J. J. Evans. 2000. In ovo methods utilizing live *Edwardsiella ictaluri* against enteric septicemia in Channel Catfish. U.S. patent 6,153,202. February 1, 2000.

When there is an assignee, the name of the assignee should appear before the title of the patent and be followed a comma and the word “assignee.”

## MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

### Names of Places of Publication

**8.46** If the name of the publisher includes a state, province, or country name, do not repeat the name:

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Madison  
Australian Museum, Sydney

If the name of the publisher includes a city name, however, that name should be repeated:

Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK  
Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama

Note that cities in the United Kingdom are followed only by the country name, abbreviated to “UK.”

**8.47** The names of the following cities need not be followed by a state, province, or country name:

Atlanta	Boston	Chicago	Dallas
Denver	Houston	Los Angeles	Miami
New York	Philadelphia	San Francisco	Seattle
Montreal	Ottawa	Quebec	Toronto
Vancouver			
Amsterdam	Athens	Beijing	Berlin
Bonn	Bucharest	Budapest	Brussels
Buenos Aires	Copenhagen	Dublin	Helsinki
Hong Kong	Jerusalem	Lisbon	London
Madrid	Manila	Mexico City	Moscow
Oslo	New Delhi	Paris	Prague
Rio de Janeiro	Rome	Singapore	Stockholm
Tokyo	Vienna		

#### Multiple Publications by an Author in a Given Year

**8.48** It is not uncommon for there to be more than one reference to a particular author (either individually, with the same coauthors, or with different coauthors) in a particular year. In reference lists, publications by single authors should appear in the order in which they are cited in the text with the lowercase letters “a,” “b,” and so forth appended to the year of publication.

Publications with more than one author are treated similarly, except that they should appear in alphabetical order by the authors’ last names:

Benfey, T., R. S. Thomas, and R. T. Thompson. 1985a.  
Benfey, T., G. Williams, and R. T. Thompson. 1985b.

Note that references with more than one author won’t necessarily appear right together (e.g., a publication by Benfey and Underwood would come between the two Benfey et al. references in the above example).

See section 8.3 for the citation of such publications in the text.

#### Non-English Publications

**8.49** The formats for publications not (or not originally) in English vary depending on whether the original language uses the Latin alphabet and whether a partial or complete translation is available.

Rodríguez, G. M. 1992. Técnicas de evaluación cuantitativa de la madurez gonadal en peces.  
[Techniques for the quantitative evaluation of gonadal maturity in fish.] AGT Editor, S.A.,  
Mexico City.

Barach, G. P. 1952. [The significance . . . Black Sea salmon]. Zoologicheskii Zhurnal 31:906–915. (In Russian.)

Li, S. 1980. [Preliminary research . . .]. Journal of Fisheries of China 4(3):275–283. (In Chinese with English summary.)

Krashevski, R. S. 1995. Schooling . . . fishes. Translated from the Polish by H. Mills. Lunker Press, New York.

## 9. Species Names

### GENERAL

- 9.1** In AFS publications, the standard practice is to give the accepted common and scientific names the first time that a species is mentioned in the abstract and text and to use only the common name thereafter. The format for the first mention is as follows:

Gizzard Shad *Dorosoma cepedianum*

(note the absence of parentheses around the scientific name). As indicated in subsequent sections, however, there are numerous exceptions to this practice, depending on the particular species in question, the authority for the names, and the frequency with which the names are used.

Most common names of fishes are now capitalized (see section 9.7 for further information).

- 9.2** References to a genus that has already been mentioned may be abbreviated unless they occur at the beginning of a sentence or there is a possibility of confusion (e.g., two or more genera beginning with the same letter):

Threadfin Shad *D. petenense*

- 9.3** Where appropriate, genus and family names may be used in lieu of species names:

*Lepomis* spp. in the genus *Micropterus* ictalurids pikes (family Esocidae)

Note that the abbreviation “sp.” refers to a single (unidentified) species within a genus, the abbreviation “spp.” to two or more species within a genus.

More general references to living organisms do not require scientific names:

coldwater fishes benthic invertebrates

- 9.4** As a rule, the full common name should be given at each use:

Coho Salmon *not* Coho

However, if the name is long or used frequently and there is no possibility of confusion, it may be shortened after the first use in each paragraph:

trout [for Westslope Cutthroat Trout]

Alternatively, the general term “fish” may be used in such cases.

**9.5** If the first mention of a species (apart from any in the abstract) occurs in a table or figure, the scientific name should be given there and not repeated in the body of the text, and vice versa. However, for the sake of completeness, a scientific name that has previously been given in the text may be repeated in a table when the scientific names of other species are first given in that table.

**9.6** Scientific names should not be used adjectively unless the alternative is cumbersome:

populations of Chinook Salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*

*not* Chinook Salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* populations

*but* Chinook Salmon *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* fry

**9.7** Following the usage in the 7th edition of *Common and Scientific Names of Fishes from the United States, Canada, and Mexico* (AFS Special Publication 34; 2013), new rules apply to the capitalization of species names.

#### Capitalize

- the common names of all fish species, including those not in *Common and Scientific Names* and other AFS taxonomic publications
- the common names of subspecies (e.g., Lahontan Cutthroat Trout)

#### Do not capitalize

- the names of life history variants (e.g., steelhead) and hybrids (e.g., saugeye)
- the common names of nonfish species, even if they appear in an AFS taxonomic publication
- common names that refer to groups of related species (e.g., Pacific salmon, darters)
- the common portions of names shared by two or more species when they are mentioned as a group (e.g., Gizzard and Threadfin shads [see section 2.12])

Common names that appear in references should be capitalized if they meet the current criteria for capitalization—even if they were not capitalized in the original publication.



## NAMES OF FISH AND OTHER AQUATIC ANIMALS

### Species in AFS's *Names of Fishes*

**9.8** AFS is the recognized authority on the names of fishes and a few other aquatic species that are indigenous to North America. The currently accepted names of these species are given in the 7th edition of *Common and Scientific Names of Fishes from the United States, Canada, and Mexico*. For species covered by that publication (including exotic species),

- Use the accepted common and scientific names in the abstract and text as indicated in section 9.1; use only the common name in the title
- Use alternative names only if the names committee has endorsed them in the main listings or the notes

### Species in Other AFS Taxonomic Publications

**9.9** AFS also publishes lists of the names of species for which it is not the primary authority, the most important of which is *World Fishes Important to North Americans* (Special Publication 21). For species covered by those publications,

- Scientific names should be given in the title as well as in the abstract and text
- Common names may be included in the title but are not required
- Alternative common and scientific names are permitted

There are two qualifications with respect to the use of alternative names. First, there should be a bridge to the preferred name in *World Fishes*:

Gilthead Seabream (also known as Gilthead Bream) *Sparus auratus*

Second, if an alternative common name is the same as that of another species covered by an AFS publication, the common name should be omitted from the title and abstract and an explanation given in the text:

Whitefish *Coregonus lavaretus* (known as Powan in North America)

### Species Covered by Other Sources

**9.10** In the case of names of species not covered by AFS publications,

- Scientific names should be included in the title as well as in the abstract and text
- Common names may be used but are not required

Copy editors should use whatever resources are available (e.g., *Marine Mammals of the World* and Internet searches) to verify the name(s) that the author uses and query the author about any discrepancies.

## Special Cases

### SUBSPECIES

#### **9.11** At first mention, the names of subspecies are presented as follows:

Coastal Cutthroat Trout *Oncorhynchus clarkii clarkii*

(see the AFS publication *Native Trout of Western North America* [Monograph 6; 1992] for guidance on the names of subspecies of trout). As *Names of Fishes* and *World Fishes* do not give common or scientific names for subspecies, authors will be given a fair amount of latitude in this regard.

### DIFFERENT LIFE HISTORIES

#### **9.12** Some fish species have more than one common name because of differences in life history. The most familiar variants are steelhead (the anadromous form of Rainbow Trout) and kokanee (the lacustrine form of Sockeye Salmon).

When only one form is mentioned in the paper, it should be presented in the usual way:

steelhead *Oncorhynchus mykiss*   kokanee *Oncorhynchus nerka*

When both forms are mentioned, how they are presented depends on which is mentioned first:

Rainbow Trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss*   then   steelhead (anadromous Rainbow Trout)

steelhead *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (anadromous Rainbow Trout)   then   Rainbow Trout

Sockeye Salmon *Oncorhynchus nerka*   then   kokanee (lacustrine Sockeye Salmon)

kokanee *Oncorhynchus nerka* (lacustrine Sockeye Salmon)   then   Sockeye Salmon

### STRAINS, STOCKS, AND RUNS

#### **9.13** Strains are variants that are maintained by culture:

Seneca Lake Trout

As a rule, copy editors should follow the author with respect to such names. When the strain name does not indicate the species in question, however, clarifying information should be given in the title, abstract, and text. For instance, the title of an article about koi (a variant of Common Carp) should refer to “koi carp,” and the

abstract and text should introduce the species by means of a phrase such as “koi, a variant of Common Carp *Cyprinus carpio*” (after which “koi” alone may be used).

Stocks are populations that are managed as a unit. They usually have geographic names:

Chesapeake Bay Striped Bass

If there is any possibility that the stock portion of the name will be considered part of the common name per se, the distinction should be made clear:

Gulf of Mexico population of Atlantic Sturgeon

Runs consist of members of a species that are migrating to spawn in a particular season:

fall-run [*or* fall] Chum Salmon

Copy editors should follow the author with respect to stock and run names unless the names used are unclear.

#### HYBRIDS

**9.14** In the abstract and text, the names of hybrids are presented as follows:

tiger muskellunge (Northern Pike *Esox lucius* × Muskellunge *E. masquinongy*)

the names of the component species being given in alphabetical order by scientific name. When the sex of the parents matters, that should be given as well:

sunshine bass (female White Bass *Morone chrysops* × male Striped Bass *M. saxatilis*)

In titles, the common names of hybrids that appear in *Names of Fishes* may be given without indicating the parent species. In other cases involving species named in *Names of Fishes*, the parent species should be given.

#### TAXONOMIC AND SYSTEMATICS PAPERS

**9.15** Scientific names may be used throughout such papers, including in the title. Common names should be given in parentheses at the first mention of the species or genus. Scientific names may be used in some places and common names in others if this makes sense in the context of the paper (for an example, see R. F. Stearley and G. R. Smith. 1993. Phylogeny of the Pacific trouts and salmon [ *Oncorhynchus* ] and genera of the family Salmonidae. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 122:1–33).

#### NEW SPECIES

- 9.16** In the case of a newly described species, the scientific name must appear in the title and may be used in lieu of the common name throughout. Authors will be requested to provide documentation of the name, and the matter will be referred to the chair of the Committee on Names of Fishes for confirmation.

#### NOTE ON TILAPIA SPECIES

- 9.17** Although many tilapia species formerly had two scientific names (e.g., *Oreochromis niloticus* or *Tilapia nilotica* for Nile Tilapia, depending on whether the Trewavas or Thys system was used), all tilapia species now have only one:

Nile Tilapia *Oreochromis niloticus* Redbelly Tilapia *Tilapia zillii*

#### NAMES OF OTHER SPECIES

- 9.18** Whenever possible, provide the full common and scientific names of other species mentioned in AFS publications:

Douglas-fir *Pseudotsuga menziesii* double-crested cormorant *Phalacrocorax auritus*

- 9.19** When there is no common name (as is the case with bacteria and some insects), use the scientific name throughout, abbreviating the genus name after the first use:

*Myxobolus cerebralis*

When there is no scientific name (as is the case with viruses and cell lines), use the common name or its acronym throughout:

infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus (IHNV)

Chinook Salmon embryo (CHSE-214) cells

Note that the scientific name for Chinook Salmon is not included in the name of the cell line derived from that species.

#### Daphnia and Brine Shrimp

- 9.20** Two common food items of fish—daphnia and brine shrimp—are often not identified beyond the genus level. At first mention, they should be indicated as follows:

daphnia *Daphnia* spp. brine shrimp *Artemia* spp.

Either the common or scientific name may be used in subsequent mentions as long as the usage is consistent:

daphnia *or* *Daphnia*

brine shrimp *or* *Artemia*

If a particular species with no common name is referred to, its scientific name may be used throughout:

*A. salina*

## PLURALS

### Fish

- 9.21** A comprehensive list of the plurals of fish names used in AFS publications is given in Appendix C. The principles governing the formation of these plurals are as follows:

As in other matters pertaining to spelling, the general authority in this area is *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (as updated by the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*).

The vast majority of fish names form their plurals by adding *s* or *es*, with stem changes where required:

Bluegills (*not* Bluegill) Guppies Ciscoes

This is especially true for compound names:

Walleyes Alewives *but* Yellowtail steelhead

In a few cases, the plural is the same as the singular (note that this is not a complete list):

trout bass salmon grouper

In the following seven cases, more than one plural is acceptable:

Dolly Varden(s) drum(s) kokanee(s) Ruffe(s) sculpin(s) sturgeon(s) tilapia(s)

The usage should be consistent, however.

- 9.22** When a plural refers to more than one species (as distinct from more than one individual of the same species), it should be formed by adding *s* or *es*:

Rainbow and Brook trouts [i.e., Rainbow Trout and Brook Trout]

## Other Taxa

- 9.23** By and large, the principles given above also pertain to the plurals of taxa other than fish. Authors will be given a little more leeway, however, especially when more than one form is commonly used.

## 10. *Spelling and Compound Words*

### SPELLING

- 10.1** The general authority on the spelling of words in AFS publications is *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (as updated by the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*). In some cases, however, sense or the customary usage in the fisheries profession require deviations from the forms given in this dictionary.

See Appendix A for a list of the accepted spellings of words and phrases commonly found in fisheries writing.

### Variants

- 10.2** Use U.S. rather than British spellings except in addresses, the names of organizations, the titles of works, and similar items.

When the dictionary presents two or more variants and the variants have equal weight (indicated by the conjunction “or” in the dictionary), use the shorter one:

totaled *not* totalled

If the variants are the same length, either may be used.

When the variants do not have equal weight (indicated by the conjunction “also”), use the first one regardless of length:

cancellation *not* cancelation

### Words with Prefixes

- 10.3** In general, prefixes should be closed up with the root words to which they are attached:

nonintuitive antioxidant prechallenge

Extensive lists of words with common prefixes may be found in *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*.

### EXCEPTIONS

- 10.4** Use a hyphen after the prefix if the root word is capitalized:

non-Canadian neo-Darwinism

mid-April *but* from mid to late April

- 10.5** Use a hyphen after the prefix if the word would otherwise be ambiguous or hard to read:

un-ionized cross-sectional multi-institutional

*but* preexisting microorganism

- 10.6** Use hyphens when more than one prefix is used with the same root word or the root word is compound:

over- or underrepresented

pre-yolk-sac

non-point-source pollution *but* point source pollution

## COMPOUND WORDS

- 10.7** The spelling of compound words can be tricky; authors should consult the following authorities (in this order) for any such words that they use: (1) Appendix A, (2) *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (or the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*), and (3) the principles given below.

Section 7.90 of the *Chicago Manual of Style* (15th edition) also contains useful examples, though it occasionally deviates from AFS style.

### Noun Forms

- 10.8** In general, compounds that serve as nouns are left “open” (i.e., with spaces between the individual words) unless the constituent parts are closely linked or the compounds are generally recognized:

main stem open water radio tag

fishpond riverbed seawater

A few technical terms have hyphens, however:

age-class eye-up net-pen

(Note that this is not a complete list of such terms.)

### Adjective Forms

- 10.9** Compounds that serve as adjectives are treated in various ways, depending on the particular form and its position in the sentence.



#### NOUN–NOUN COMBINATIONS

**10.10** Compounds consisting of two or more nouns are usually left open:

age structure differentials   sea surface temperatures

However, they may be hyphenated to avoid awkwardness or ambiguity:

population-level analyses

#### NOUN–VERB PARTICIPLE COMBINATIONS

**10.11** Compounds consisting of a noun and a present or past participle are hyphenated:

decision-making authority   oxygen-depleted waters

#### ADJECTIVE–NOUN COMBINATIONS

**10.12** Compounds consisting of an adjective and a noun are hyphenated unless the open form is very familiar:

main-stem reaches   second-order stream   cost-effective measures

*but*   high school participants

#### COMBINATIONS INVOLVING ADVERBS

**10.13** Compounds containing an adverb that ends in “-ly” are never hyphenated:

rapidly changing situation

**10.14** With the exceptions noted in section 10.15, compounds containing other adverbs are hyphenated:

well-written article   much-replicated research

**10.15** Compounds containing “very,” “most,” and “least” are left open:

very respected scientist   least intensive effort

#### COMBINATIONS INVOLVING UNITS OF MEASURE

**10.16** Compounds containing units of measure are hyphenated:

1.5-mg/L treatment

## PREDICATE POSITION

**10.17** Compounds that appear after the nouns they modify are left open:

These measures were cost effective. The article was well written.

## Verb Forms

**10.18** The treatment of compounds that serve as verbs is so irregular that no general rules can be given:

run off break up grow out

dipnet download livetrapping

mass-mark PIT-tag air-dry

To determine which form to use, consult the references given in section 10.7.

## Use of En Dashes

**10.19** In AFS publications, en dashes are generally used instead of hyphens in compounds in which the en dash stands for “and,” “to,” or “at”:

Beverton–Holt analysis length–weight ratio University of California–Davis

*but* Smith–Root [legal name]

## 11. Symbols

This chapter explains the treatment of certain symbols and other technical designations that are commonly used in fisheries science. Symbols pertaining to mathematics and statistics are covered in Chapter 4; see also the list of abbreviations and acronyms in Appendix B.

### Cell Cycle Phase

- 11.1** Cell cycle phases are indicated by capital letters in nonitalic type, i.e., G<sub>0</sub> (the quiescent phase after cell division), G<sub>1</sub> (the primary growth phase), S (the phase in which the genome is replicated), G<sub>2</sub> (the growth phase in which the cell prepares for genomic separation), M (mitosis [genomic separation]), and C (cytokinesis [cell division]).

### Cell Lines and Bacterial Strains

- 11.2** Cell lines are usually indicated by their acronyms, but the type must be spelled out at first mention:

Chinook Salmon embryo (CHSE-214) cells

- 11.3** For bacterial strains that are maintained by standard type culture collections, the collection should be noted at first mention:

*Flavobacterium psychrophilum* (ATCC 49418)

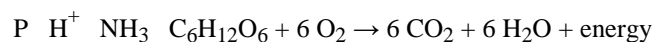
The acronym ATCC may be used in lieu of the full name (American Type Culture Collection) because it is a standard acronym listed in Appendix B.

For strains that are maintained by individual laboratories, the laboratories' identifying codes should be given:

*Aeromonas* 1-75

### Chemical Terms

- 11.4** Standard chemical symbols may be used for elements, compounds, and equations without further explanation:



If a sentence begins with the name of an element or compound, however, that name must be spelled out along with any others that occur in the sentence:

Phosphorus and nitrogen. . . . *not* P and N. . . . *or* Phosphorus and N. . . .

**11.5** Compounds may also be indicated by their generic and “chemical” names:

formalin rotenone [generic]

17 $\beta$ -hydroxyandrost-4-en-3-one [chemical]

Letters indicating the dextro and levo configurations (D- and L-, respectively, should be small capitals.

The following prefixes should be italicized:

<i>cis</i> -	priority groups are on the same side of the reference plane
<i>m</i> -	meta
<i>N</i> -	attached to a nitrogen atom (e.g., <i>N</i> -methylpyridine)
<i>o</i> -	ortho
<i>O</i> -	attached to an oxygen atom (e.g., <i>O</i> -acetylhydroxylamine)
<i>p</i> -	para
<i>S</i> -	attached to a sulfur atom (e.g., <i>S</i> -methyleysteine)
<i>tert</i> -	tertiary
<i>trans</i> -	priority groups are on opposite sides of the reference plane

Generic names that appear in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (or the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*) or as main entries in the *Merck Index* (Merck & Co., Rahway, New Jersey) or *Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary* (W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia) may be used without a chemical name. Other generic names must be accompanied by a chemical name at first mention.

**11.6** Acronyms that appear in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* or the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* do not need to be spelled out:

DDT EDTA

TRADE NAMES

**11.7** Compounds may be referred to by trade name, but the generic name or a general description must be given at first mention:

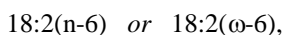
MS-222 (tricaine methanesulfonate)

the vaccine Furogen 2

Trade names are often capitalized (see section 2.5).

#### FATTY ACIDS

- 11.8** Fatty acids may be indicated by name (e.g., linolenic acid) or by notation of the sort



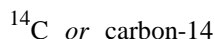
where the number to the left of the colon is the number of carbon atoms in the compound, the number immediately to the right of the colon is the number of double bonds, and the number after the hyphen indicates the position of the first double bond from the methyl end.

The numerical notation must be accompanied by an explanation like that above.

When used to indicate a class, terms such as “n-6” should not be in parentheses.

#### RADIOACTIVE ELEMENTS

- 11.9** Radioactive elements may be indicated in either of the following two ways:



The usage must be consistent within the paper, however.

#### Enzymes

- 11.10** At first mention, standard enzymes (those with names ending in “-ase”) are referred to both by name and by the numbers assigned to them by the Nomenclature Committee of the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology:

creatine kinase (enzyme number 2.7.3.2; IUBMB 1992)



The following citation should appear in the list of references:<sup>1</sup>

IUBMB (International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology). 1992. Enzyme nomenclature 1992. Academic Press, San Diego, California.

As the above examples suggest, the IUBMB citation and the words “enzyme number” need only appear in the text the first time an enzyme number is given.

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<sup>1</sup> This volume has been updated by various supplements that appeared in the *European Journal of Biochemistry* from 1993 to 1999. Subsequent supplements have been posted on the IUBMB's Web site, [www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme](http://www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme). Authors should cite whatever source is most appropriate.

**11.11** After full identification, enzymes may be abbreviated according to the conventions adopted by the Fish Genetics Nomenclature Committee of AFS's Fish Genetics Section (see J. B. Shaklee et al. 1990. Gene nomenclature for protein-coding loci in fish. Transactions of the American Fisheries Society 119:2–15, especially Tables 1 and 2):

CK [creatine kinase]

bGAL *or* βGAL [beta-galactosidase]

sAAT, mAAT [cytosolic and mitochondrial aspartate aminotransferase]

IDHP-1, IDHP-2 [isozymes of isocitrate dehydrogenase]

#### RESTRICTION ENZYMES

**11.12** Restriction enzymes (also known as endonucleases) are derived from bacteria and have a different nomenclature that reflects their origin:

*Taq* *Acc* I *Hinc* II

Thus, *Taq* is derived from the bacterium *Thermus aquaticus*, *Acc* I is the first enzyme derived from *Acinetobacter calcoaceticus*, and *Hinc* II is the second enzyme derived from the Rc strain of *Haemophilus influenzae*.

Note that when the name has more than three letters only the first three are italicized.

#### Gas Pressure

**11.13** The partial pressure of a gas is indicated as follows:

PO<sub>2</sub> *or* pO<sub>2</sub>

Note that letters such as O (for oxygen) are in small capitals.

#### Genetics

**11.14** Genes (also known as loci) are designated by the abbreviations of the enzymes they encode, with two typographic differences: (1) an asterisk follows the enzyme abbreviation and (2) the entire expression (including the asterisk) is italicized:

*CK\** *bGAL\** (*but* βGAL\*) *sAAT\** *IDHP-1\**

The enzymes themselves should be named in full (see section 11.10) when such abbreviations are used.

Designations for genes that encode subunits of enzymes are italicized but not followed by an asterisk:

*ND-4 ND-6* [subunits of NADH (the reduced form of nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide) dehydrogenase]

#### ALLELES

**11.15** Alleles may be indicated by appending Arabic numbers, lowercase letters, or relative electrophoretic mobilities to the gene abbreviations:

*EST-2\*1, EST-2\*2 . . . or EST-2\*a, EST-2\*b . . . or EST-2\*100, EST-2\*75 . . .*

The Fish Genetics Nomenclature Committee recommends using Arabic numbers but providing the corresponding electrophoretic mobilities. However alleles are designated, a full description of the conditions under which the electrophoretic differences were determined should be given.

Alleles may be indicated without the gene abbreviations as long as it is clear to which genes they belong:

Four alleles of *EST-2\** were observed: \*1, \*2, \*3, and \*4 [or \*100, \*43, \*75, and \*150].

Multiple alleles in a genotype should be separated by forward slashes:

*EST-1\*100/55 sAAT-1,2\*130/100/100/80*

Haplotypes, which are groups of alleles that are inherited together, are printed in nonitalic type:

MYS21

#### MICROSATELLITES

**11.16** Microsatellites are a class of nuclear DNA markers consisting of small (1–5-base-pair) repeating sequences that are often studied in lieu of genes per se. They are designated solely by their abbreviations, which are italicized except for any Greek letters they contain:

*Ots1 Ssa85 Oneμ3*

#### PLOIDY

**11.17** Ploidy, the degree of repetition in the basic number of chromosomes that an organism possesses, is indicated by a number and a lowercase “n” in nonitalic type:

2n [diploidy] 4n [tetraploidy]

## FILIAL GENERATION

**11.18** Filial generation is indicated by a capital “F” in nonitalic type and a numerical subscript:

$$F_1$$

## FIXATION INDEXES

**11.19** Fixation indexes are statistics of the form

$$F = (H_e - H_o)/H_e$$

that measure the degree of difference between expected heterozygosity ( $H_e$ ) and observed heterozygosity ( $H_o$ ). The most commonly used index, which compares the genetic composition of discrete populations within a larger metapopulation, is denoted  $F_{ST}$ . It is not necessary to provide a detailed explanation of such an index, but a general explanation should be given at first mention:

the genetic differentiation index  $F_{ST}$

Note that the subscript is in capital letters.

## DNA BASE CUTTING

**11.20** The sites at which restriction enzymes cleave DNA may be indicated in a number of ways, including the following:



In these expressions, the letters C, T, G, and A represent the four bases found in DNA, namely, cytosine, thymine, guanine, and adenine (uracil [U] replaces thymine in RNA). The numbers 5' and 3' refer to the carbon atoms at the two ends of the nucleotide chain.

The fact that one of two alternative bases may be present at a particular site can be indicated in four ways: (1) (T/C), (A/G); (2) T/C, A/G; (3) Py, Pu, which stand for the pyrimidine (T, C) and purine (A, G) bases, respectively; and (4) (T or C), (A or G).

In the first three examples, a caret (^) denotes the cutting site; in the last three examples, a forward slash does.



## Hormones and Antibodies

**11.21** Hormones and antibodies may be denoted by their standard abbreviations or acronyms but must be spelled out at first mention:

luteinizing hormone releasing hormone (LHRH)

immunoglobulin A (IgA)

## Lethal Concentrations and Doses

**11.22** Terms indicating lethal concentrations and doses may be abbreviated but must be explained in full at first use:

the concentration [dose] that was lethal to 50% of the test organisms over the first 96 h (LC50 [LD50])

the dose that produced a cytopathic effect in 50% of the inoculated cultures (TCID50)

Note that the percentage of organisms affected and the time of exposure may vary and that numbers such as 50 are not treated as subscripts in AFS publications.

## Fish Mortality

**11.23** Symbols denoting fish mortality rates should be defined at first use:

instantaneous fishing mortality ( $F$ )

instantaneous natural mortality ( $M$ )

Subscripts are sometimes used to denote more specific mortality rates:

the fishing mortality at which yield per recruit is at a maximum ( $F_{\max}$ )

## Fish Ages

**11.24** References to fish by age-class may be made as follows:

age-0 Bluegills   age-2 fish

The term “young-of-the-year” may be used in lieu of “age-0,” but it may not be abbreviated to “YOY”:

young-of-the-year Bluegills   *not*   YOY Bluegills

A term such as “age-1+” may be used to refer to fish of age 1 and older as long as an explanation is given. However, such a term may not be used just to indicate growth beyond the first annulus.

## ANADROMOUS SALMONIDS

**11.25** The preferred way to refer to the age of an anadromous salmonid is as follows:

age 2.2   age 0.3

In this system, the first digit is the number of winters spent in freshwater and the second digit is the number of winters spent in the ocean.

References to the freshwater or ocean portions of a fish's life alone may be made as follows:

age 2.   age .2

## 12. *Tables and Figures*

- 12.1** Because the information that is given in tables and figures usually constitutes the heart of a scientific paper, it needs to be presented in as precise and accessible a way as possible.

### TABLES

A sample table illustrating many of the points discussed below appears in Example A at the end of this chapter.

### Caption

- 12.2** The first sentence should state the contents of the table in a general way; although many authors simply repeat the column headings in the first sentence, this is not very informative and should be avoided whenever possible. The first sentence does not have to be a complete sentence.

Subsequent sentences, which do have to be complete, should present other information that is pertinent to the table as a whole. Although AFS style no longer requires that tables be essentially self-standing (i.e., intelligible apart from the text), captions should provide enough information that readers can easily perceive the purpose and structure of each table. Where relevant, this will include

- the particular species involved and their gender(s) and age(s)
- the body of water or laboratory at which the data were obtained (but not the state, province, or country)
- the method by which the specimens were collected (e.g., electroshocking)
- the year and month or season in which the specimens were collected or the experiments carried out
- the statistical tests and significance levels used
- definitions and explanations that apply to the entire table

The following caption, which shows the general format for captions, is a good model:

TABLE 1. Seasonal growth and survival (90-d means  $\pm$  SDs) of age-1 Sockeye Salmon that were tagged with one of three devices and released into floating net-pens in Lake Genoa, 1987–1988. Asterisks denote significant differences from unmarked controls (*t*-test;  $P \leq 0.05$ ).

#### EXCEPTION

A complete description of the study need not be repeated in the captions to subsequent tables, provided that the context is clear. For instance, the caption to the table following the one in the example above could be simply

TABLE 2. Relative weights (90-d means  $\pm$  SDs) of age-1 Sockeye Salmon in tagging experiments.

### 12.3 To prevent a caption from becoming unwieldy,

- Move units of measure to the straddle, column, or row headings whenever possible (see sections 12.5–12.7)
- Put narrowly focused definitions and explanations in footnotes
- Do not define terms and abbreviations that are well known and defined in the text (e.g., LWD [large woody debris])
- When definitions and explanations are lengthy and have been given in a previously mentioned table or figure, refer the reader to that table or figure rather than repeating the information
- When symbol definitions or detailed explanations are readily located in the text, refer the reader to the text

#### SIGNIFICANCE LEVELS AND STANDARD DEVIATIONS

### 12.4 If there is one level of significance in a table, it may be noted as in the sample caption above. Different levels of significance are usually indicated by different numbers of asterisks, with an explanation such as the following at the end of the caption:

...;  $P \leq 0.05^*$ ,  $P \leq 0.01^{**}$ . or ... ( $P \leq 0.05^*$ ,  $P \leq 0.01^{**}$ ).

Note that a symbol such as  $P$  may not begin a sentence.

The way in which standard deviations, standard errors, and confidence intervals are presented may be explained in the caption or the row and column headings, whichever is appropriate. The form of the explanation

should follow that of the presentation. For example, when the data are presented in the form “9.5 ± 0.7,” the explanation should be of the form

mean ± SD

When the data are presented in the form “9.5 (0.7),” the explanation should be of the form

mean (SD) or mean (SDs in parentheses)

## Headings

- 12.5** Column headings may be individual (such as “Age-class” in Example A) or grouped under a straddle heading (such as “Total weight [g]”), as appropriate. Note that a straddle heading describes the items immediately below it, not the data in the columns.

Column headings must indicate all of the information that appears beneath them. When more than one type of information is given, this must be reflected in the heading. For example, if the first column contains the names of various locations and species of fish for which data are presented, the column heading should read “Location and species.”

*There should be only one set of column headings per table.* To avoid having more than one set, rearrange the table (such as by switching the rows and columns) or split it into two or more tables.

- 12.6** Row headings need not be repeated when they apply to more than one row. Subheadings should be indented the length of one em dash from the main headings.

Bold centered headings (e.g., “Females” and “Males” in Example A) may be used to distinguish different types of data. These headings must be distinct from the row headings (i.e., they must not represent larger aggregations of the items in the row headings), and they must not conflict with the column headings.

- 12.7** If all of the data in the table have the same unit of measure, indicate it in the caption. If different units of measure are involved, indicate them in the appropriate column, straddle, or row headings.

- 12.8** When the names of months are used in headings, they should be abbreviated to their first three letters; years should be given in their entirety. Date designations such as “6/21/06” are not permitted; use “Jun 21, 2006” instead.

- 12.9** Special rules apply to the capitalization of terms beginning with a number or symbol when they are used in headings.

Capitalize the first word of a hyphenated term unless it involves a unit of measure:

$\alpha$ -Testosterone L-Thyroxine *but* 3-year-old fish 6-week analysis

Do not capitalize the first word of an unhyphenated term or one in which capitalization would be apt to cause confusion:

1998 year-class % of mean *t*-test

## Body

The entries in the body of a table should be arranged so that they are as easy to read as possible. To this end, the press automatically formats these entries according to certain rules. However, there are a few formatting matters for which authors are responsible.

- 12.10** The press aligns numerical entries on a decimal point (which may not be shown explicitly), an en dash, or a plus/minus symbol ( $\pm$ ), depending on the particular form of the data.
- 12.11** Authors should insert blank lines to divide rows of data into logical groups. Blank lines may also be used to break up long columns of data.
- 12.12** Authors are also responsible for the correct placement of the lowercase letters that indicate the statistical equivalence or nonequivalence of values within a row or column (z, y, x, . . .); such letters should be put on the same lines as the values to which they refer and be separated from them by single spaces.

Note that the letter z may indicate either the largest or the smallest value(s) but that the other letters must then follow suit (e.g., if z indicates the largest value(s), y must indicate the next largest, and so forth). Do not use the sequence a, b, c, . . . in statistical comparisons because these letters are reserved for footnotes.

If all of the values in a table are statistically equivalent, note that in the caption rather than by letters. Otherwise, each value in a comparison must be accompanied by a letter; do not use the absence of letters to indicate equivalence.

## Footnotes

- 12.13** Footnotes should be indicated by superscripts starting with the lowercase letter “a.” They do not need to be complete sentences but must end with periods. Avoid using footnotes in captions.

## Extensions and Continuations

- 12.14** If a table is too wide to fit on one page, the press will “extend” it onto a facing page, so that column  $m$  on the left-hand page is followed by column  $m + 1$  on the right-hand page. For clarity, the row headings are repeated on the right-hand page. Alternatively, the author may be asked to condense the table.
- 12.15** If a table is too long to fit on one page, the press will “continue” it onto a facing page, so that row  $n$  on the left-hand page is followed by row  $n + 1$  on the right-hand page. The column headings are repeated on the right-hand page; the row headings may also be repeated if necessary for clarity.

## Appendix and Supplementary Tables

In addition to the standard elements of a paper, authors may submit certain supplementary material, such as additional data or results, the derivations of equations, computer code, and so forth. For publication purposes, such material will be treated either as an *appendix* (which will appear with the article in both the print and online versions) or as a *supplement* (which will appear only in the online version). In terms of format, appendices should be regarded as extensions of articles and thus follow AFS style strictly. Supplements, by contrast, may be in any format that is suitable for their contents; however, (1) there should be consistency between the symbols, abbreviations, and so forth used in the supplement and those used in the article and (2) either the title of the supplement or the first paragraph should make clear how it relates to the article.

- 12.16** There is only one difference between the treatment of tables that appear in appendices and that of those that appear in the text, namely, that the number is preceded by the letter A and a period:

TABLE A.1. . . .

If there is more than one appendix, they should be numbered A.1, A.2, and so forth and the tables within them A.1.1, A.1.2, . . . , A.2.1, and so forth. All appendices should begin with centered headings in bold, even those that only contain tables.

The treatment of supplementary tables is the same as that of appendix tables except that the letter S replaces the letter A in the table designations (e.g., Table S.1).

## FIGURES

Figures include visual materials such as graphs, maps, diagrams, and photographs. Like tables, they may appear in the text, one or more appendices, or one or more supplements. This section outlines the stylistic requirements for figures; authors should also consult the guidelines for the individual AFS publications for specific technical requirements (e.g., electronic format).

The primary responsibility for correct figure design and formatting rests with authors. Although the press has the ability to make minor changes, figures will be returned to authors for major changes, possibly delaying publication.

At the most fundamental level, figure design should follow certain commonsense principles: figures should be as simple and straightforward as possible, have a high enough resolution to be easily readable, and be consistent in the use of lettering, line widths, and other graphic elements. They also need to conform to AFS style.

It is particularly important to remember that many figures will be reduced by 35–50% when printed and thus need to be designed with this in mind. Some of the guidelines that follow address this issue, but as a safeguard we urge authors to use a copier to reduce each figure to the width of one or two printed columns and the appropriate height (for the four print journals, the single- and double-column widths are approximately 2.75 and 5.62 in, respectively, and the height is 7.25 in; for other AFS publications (e.g., books and *Fisheries*), consult the specific guidelines for those publications). Every element should still be legible and all symbols, shadings, and so forth distinct after reduction.

## **12.17 Captions**

Place each figure caption immediately below the figure to which it pertains. Figures that appear in appendices and supplements should be numbered like appendix and supplementary tables.

Like the captions for tables (sections 12.2–12.4), those for figures should generally be comprehensive enough to enable the reader to understand the figures without reference to the text. However, to the extent possible, include full variable names, units of measure, panel descriptions, legends, and so forth in the figure itself rather than in the caption. Identify abbreviations and nonstandard symbols in the caption.

If symbols such as “A” and “B” are used to designate different panels within a figure, in the caption (1) the letters should be in parentheses, (2) both the letter and the parentheses should be in bold the first time they occur, and (3) the letter should come before the description of the item to which it refers. Capital letters are strongly preferred, but in any case the letters should be exactly the same in the figure and caption (e.g., if the figure uses “a” and “b” rather than “A” and “B,” the caption should too).

## **12.18 Size and Layout**

As a rule, figures should be rectangular with a height : width ratio of 2 : 3 or 3 : 4 (unless such a ratio distorts the data). The scale should be chosen so that the representation of the data fills the space allotted to it as completely as possible.



Do not use borders around figures. In figures portraying the ( $x$ ,  $y$ ) plane, show only those two axes unless data are also arrayed along a  $y$ -axis on the right.

Place tick marks on the outside of the axes (i.e., to the left of the  $y$ -axis and below the  $x$ -axis).

Place axis labels close to the axes but not so close that they obscure the scale. If an axis label applies to more than one panel above or to the right, it need be given only once (centered with respect to the panels in question).

If the  $x$ -axis shows months or years, include the word “Month” or “Year” under the months or years named. Abbreviate months by their first three letters; give all four digits for years.

Place multiple panels close together but do not crowd them. Whenever possible, give them substantive labels (e.g., “Above dam” and “Below dam”) rather than “A” and “B.”

Place other elements, such as legends (typically used to explain the symbols, line formats, or shading representing different phenomena), scale bars, and compass roses within the margins of the figure; if an element applies to more than one panel, it need be given only once, preferably in the first panel.

Individual lines within a graph may be labeled (such as by an arrow and text, an equation, or statistical information) as long as the graph does not become too cluttered.

Whenever possible, use distinct patterns (e.g., hatch marks) rather than shading to distinguish different phenomena in bar and pie charts; if shading is used, keep it in the range of 30–70% of black and make sure that the different shadings are clearly discernable.

In the print version of the journal, all figures will be reproduced in black and white unless authors have made specific arrangements with the Journals Department to cover the extra costs of color printing. (In the online version, color figures will be reproduced in color at no additional charge.) Because color printing is expensive, authors are advised not to use color to distinguish phenomena when other means (different shading, symbols, and so forth) are adequate. If you have to use color in a figure, avoid using similar colors or shades that may be difficult for readers to distinguish. Also, in deference to readers with color blindness, avoid using red and green in the same figure.

Maps should include a scale and a compass rose indicating which way is north. Highly localized maps should be accompanied by a broader-scale map showing the regional location.

The scale should be given for photomicrographs and, when relevant, for photographs.

## 12.19 Lines and Lettering

The axis and other lines appearing in a figure should be wide enough to accommodate reduction, but not so wide as to dominate the figure. Different widths may be used to distinguish different items (e.g., axes versus curves), but the same width should be used for analogous items. Special care should be taken with dashed lines (which may appear continuous after reduction) and dotted lines (which may no longer be visible).

Use the font Times Roman for all axis labels; the font size should be 6–9 points after reduction and not bold or italic. Other fonts may be used for other items as long as (1) the same font is used for analogous items and (2) the font size is no larger than that used for the axis labels (but at least 6 points).

A bold sans serif font (e.g., Arial) may be used for the letters that distinguish different panels (A, B, etc.). Otherwise avoid bold type, as it tends to fill in when reduced. Also avoid italic type, as it tends to wash out.

Capitalize the first word in all labels as well as any proper nouns and adjectives; do not capitalize other words.

## CALL-OUTS

**12.20** Call-outs are references to tables, figures, appendices, and supplements that occur within the main text and direct the reader to those items:

Survival was greater in tank 1 than in tank 2 (Table 1).

All of the tables and figures that appear with the main text should be called out in numerical order. Call-outs to material in appendices and supplements may be more general as long as the reader is made aware of them:

(For additional results, refer to Appendix A.1)

Call-outs need not be repeated for every result provided that it is clear in which table/figure they may be found:

Survival was greater in tank 1 than in tank 2 (Table 1). However, the fish in tank 2 attained greater weight.

## Example A

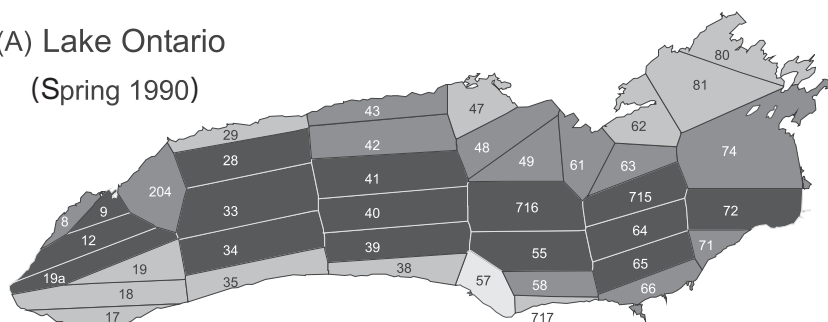
TABLE 5.—Age, weight, and length statistics for female and male Alabama shad collected in the Choctawhatchee River. Data for years 1994, 1995, 1999, and 2000 are combined.

Age-class	Sample size	Total weight (g)		Total length (mm)		
		Range	Mean	Range	Actual mean	Model mean <sup>a</sup>
Females						
2	51	393-990	637	365-438	397	395
3	53	327-1,202	702	365-445	404	408
4	44	360-1,265	772	373-467	418	418
5	13	574-1,118	841	409-455	433	425
6	6	626-963	837	400-440	425	431
Males						
1	11	48-222	109	90-288	213	207
2	104	48-662	411	188-390	353	357
3	67	80-722	457	222-418	362	370
4	21	313-707	461	344-415	373	371
5	3	409-454	432	362-388	372	371

<sup>a</sup> Model mean is based on the following von Bertalanffy growth models, where  $L(t)$  = total length at time  $t$  in years. Females:  $L(t) = 447(1 - e^{-0.289(t - 5.124)})$ ; males:  $L(t) = 371(1 - e^{-2.437(t - 0.664)})$ .

## Example B

(A) Lake Ontario  
(Spring 1990)



(B) Lake Erie  
(Spring 1994)

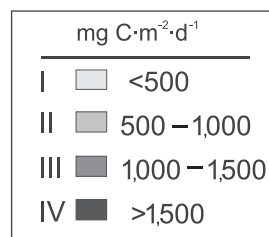
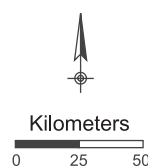
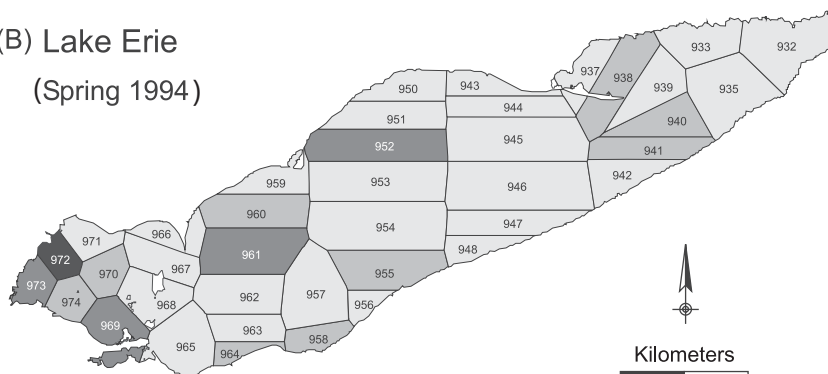


FIGURE 1.—Maps of (A) Lake Ontario and (B) Lake Erie showing the stations (numbers) sampled on selected synoptic cruises in the springs of 1990 and 1994, respectively; the Thiessen polygons assigned to each station; and the polygons classified according to the level of daily areal phytoplankton photosynthesis computed with cloudless irradiance ( $\text{mg C} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{d}^{-1}$ ).

## Example C

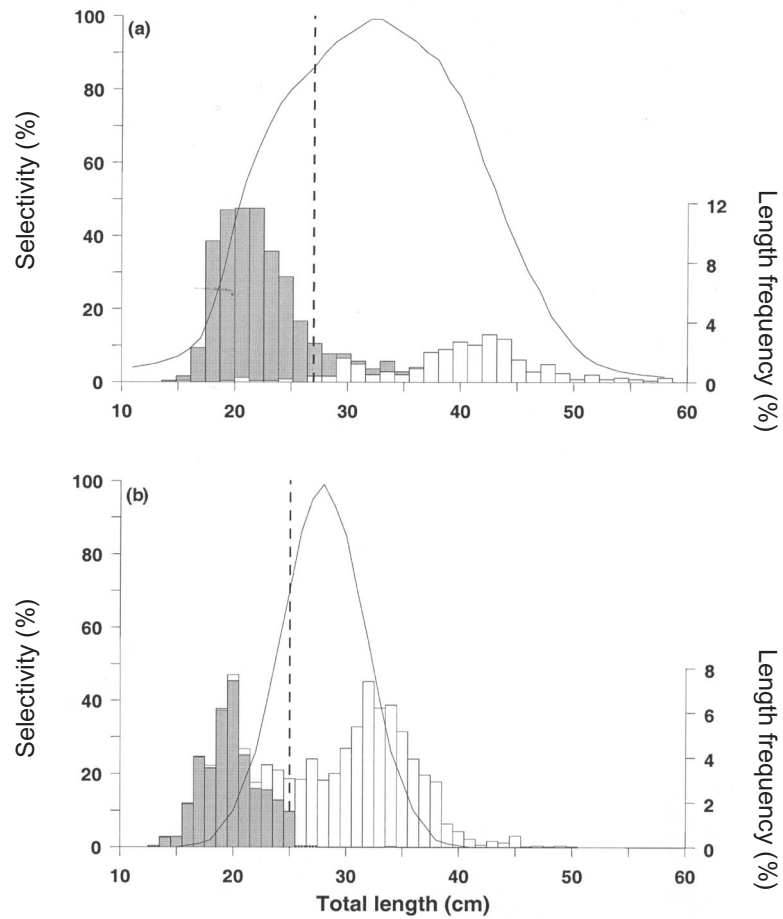


FIGURE 4.—The theoretical overall selection curve for (a) *T. toli* from Sarawak and (b) *T. macrura* in Sumatra when the selectivity curves for the similarly shaped *T. ilisha* are applied to the mesh sizes used in each fishery. The length frequencies of males (shaded bars) and females (white bars) in the commercial catch and the minimum length at sexual maturity (vertical dashed line) are also shown. Data are from the studies of Blaber et al. (1996, 1999).

### 13. *Vendors and Commercial Products*

- 13.1** In general, authors are not required to give detailed information about the commercial products (feeds, chemical compounds, equipment, software, and so forth) used in their research, but they may do so if they wish.

Authors may format reference to products in whatever way seems best in the situation at hand. The following formats are all acceptable:

a backpack electrofisher  
a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root)  
a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root; Model 12)  
a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root, Vancouver, Washington)  
a backpack electrofisher (Smith-Root, Vancouver, Washington; Model 12)

a Smith-Root backpack electrofisher  
a Smith-Root Model 12 backpack electrofisher  
a Smith-Root (Vancouver, Washington) backpack electrofisher  
a Smith-Root (Vancouver, Washington) Model 12 backpack electrofisher

Terms such as “Inc.,” “Ltd.,” “Corp.,” and “Co.” in company names should be omitted.

If a commercial product figures prominently in a paper (e.g., when different products are being compared), the names of the product and producer should be given at first mention in both the Abstract and the introduction and a complete identification of the product and producer should be given in Methods:

Eagle’s minimum essential medium (Gibco BRL) [Abstract and introduction]

Eagle’s minimum essential medium (Gibco BRL, Gaithersburg, Maryland) [Methods]

- 13.2** Subsequent references to a producer may be shortened:

. . . phosphate-buffered saline (Sigma Chemical, St. Louis, Missouri) [first mention]

. . . an enzymatic glucose assay (Sigma) [subsequent mention]

#### Software

- 13.3** Software packages should be cited as commercial products or personal communications, whichever applies, rather than as literature:

. . . performed with SuperANOVA 4.2 (21st Century Software, Cambridge, Massachusetts).

. . . performed with special software developed by researchers at Utah State University (E. M. Johnson, personal communication; available at [www.usu.edu/zool/habsim/](http://www.usu.edu/zool/habsim/)).

In the case of personal communications, indicate whether the software is generally available.

#### U.S. Government Disclaimer

- 13.4** When trade names are given and one or more of the authors is a U.S. Government employee, the following language should be included in Acknowledgments:

Reference to trade names does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Similar language should be included for all other employers who request it.

## 14. *Word Usage*

AFS publications restrict the use of certain terms in the interest of ensuring technical accuracy and not sounding too colloquial. This chapter reviews these restrictions and addresses other instances of word usage that may cause difficulty.

### SPECIFIC TERMS

*Affect* versus *effect*.—Except in certain psychological contexts, the word “affect” is a verb meaning “to have an effect on”; the word “effect,” by contrast, may be either a noun meaning “result” or a verb meaning “to bring about”:

The slight change in salinity strongly affected the fish.

The slight change in salinity had a strong effect on the fish.

We effected the change in salinity by adding well water to the tanks.

*Alternative* versus *alternate*.—The word “alternative” implies other possibilities:

An alternative explanation for the genetic differences that we observed is the founder effect.

The word “alternate,” by contrast, is a synonym for “opposite” or “every other”:

Dipnetters were stationed on alternate sides of the low-head dam.

The fish were fed on alternate days.

*And/or*.—The expression “x and/or y” may be used when the meaning is “x or y or both,” i.e., when x and y can be taken *either* jointly *or* separately:

Mortality was caused by higher temperatures and/or oxygen depletion.

In most cases, however, “and” or “or” alone is logically correct. For instance,

Wetland use is subject to state and federal regulations.

is preferable to

Wetland use is subject to state and/or federal regulations.



because even though some wetlands may be subject only to state regulations, some only to federal regulations, and some to both, wetlands—as a group—are subject to both.

*And* versus *or* in series.—In series, the term “and” should be used to indicate that the items listed are to be taken together, the term “or” that they are to be taken separately:

The treatments used in this experiment were x, y, and z.

*but* Each fish was subjected to one of three treatments: x, y, or z.

*As*.—This word may be used to indicate causation:

We terminated sampling early, as the storm had made the lake very choppy.

*As such*.—Use of this term is restricted to cases in which (1) it is preceded by a description and (2) the word “such” takes the place of the description in the clause that follows:

The lakes in the study area were all cold, relatively shallow montane lakes; as such, [i.e., as cold, relatively shallow montane lakes]. . . .

*not* The Bonneville Power Administration has jurisdiction over these dams. As such, . . .

In the second example, use “as a result,” “for this reason,” or some equivalent expression to indicate the connection between the two clauses.

*Bias*.—When used as a verb, this word should be accompanied by adverbs rather than adjectives:

biased upward *not* biased high

*Compare to* versus *compare with*.—There is an important distinction between the expressions “compare to” and “compare with”; to compare one thing *to* another is to indicate that they are similar in some respect, whereas to compare one thing *with* another is simply to examine them side by side:

This situation may be compared to one in which. . . .

We compared the results from the first treatment with those from the second.

In most of the cases encountered in AFS publications, “compare with” is the proper expression. However, that term should be avoided in actual comparisons:

The fish in the first treatment attained higher weights than those in the second.

*not* The fish in the first treatment attained higher weights compared with those in the second.

*Comprise*.—This word may be used in both passive and active constructions:

The sample comprised fish from 15 species.

The sample was comprised of fish from 15 species.

*Confidence interval* versus *confidence limits*.—The term “confidence interval” refers to a range of values, the term “confidence limits” to the smallest and largest values within that range:

within the 95% confidence interval  $4.9 \pm 0.3$

within the 95% confidence limits 4.6 and 5.2

*Due to*.—This term may be used in two senses: (1) as a synonym for “attributable to” and (2) as a synonym for “owing to” or “because of”:

The poor recruitment in 1997 was probably due to abnormally high predation.

Due to the limitations of our data, we were only able to address the first hypothesis.

*Fish* versus *fishes*.—The term “fishes” should only be used as a synonym for “species of fish,” not as the plural of “fish”:

A large number of fishes are found in this ecosystem.

*but* We collected 422 fish by gill netting.

*Fishery* versus *fisheries*.—Both terms may be used as adjectives with the same meaning:

Fishery [Fisheries] management is increasingly focusing on angler behavior.

*Following*.—This word may be used as a synonym for “after,” although the latter term is generally preferable:

After [Following] exposure to the pathogen, the fish. . . .

*If* versus *whether*.—Use the word “if” only when the intended meaning is “in the event of”; use the word “whether” when stating an indirect question with more than one possible answer:

If hypoxia develops, mortality will rise significantly.

The purpose of this study was to determine whether this type of marking has any deleterious effects on juvenile fish.

*Increased/reduced* versus *higher/lower*.—The terms “increased” and “reduced” may only be used in situations in which the researcher has actually altered the variable of interest; “higher” and “lower” should be used in other situations:

The increased temperature in the first two tanks during the second phase of the experiment led to. . .

The lower average temperature in the more northerly of the two creeks was apparently responsible for. . .

*In order to*.—Although in rare cases euphony may call for using this term, in most cases “to” alone will suffice:

To test this hypothesis, we. . .

*not* In order to test this hypothesis, we. . .

*Likely*.—This word may be used either as an adjective meaning “probable” or as an adverb meaning “probably”:

Early spawning is likely.

Spawning will likely be early.

*Over*.—This word may be used in the sense of “more than” as well as that of “during”:

We carried out the research over a period of several months.

Over 500 anglers returned completed survey forms.

*Parameter*.—Although this word has acquired a number of meanings in recent years, for the sake of clarity AFS style restricts its use to two situations: (1) when it refers to a fixed value in an equation or statistical distribution and (2) when it refers to a critical value of some sort:

The estimated parameters were as follows:  $a = -1.33$  and  $b = 0.59$ .

A relatively high water temperature ( $\geq 26^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) is one of the reproductive parameters for this species.

The term “parameter” should never be used when the term “variable” or, more generally, “characteristic” is meant:

The most important variable was streamflow.

*Potentially.*—Avoid using this term with other terms indicating possibility:

This is a potentially important finding.

*not* This could be a potentially important finding.

*Prior to.*—Although euphony may occasionally call for the use of this term, “before” is a better choice in most cases:

Before the start of the experiment, . . .

*not* Prior to the start of the experiment, . . .

*Relationship* versus *relation*.—The word “relationship” should be used when referring to an association or causal connection:

the relationship between substrate type and reproductive success

*not* the relation between substrate type and reproductive success

*Significant.*—With the exception in the second example below, AFS style restricts the use of this word to cases of statistical significance:

The difference between means was significant ( $P < 0.05$ ).

Though significant statistically, the result was not considered significant biologically.

In other cases, substitute words such as “major,” “important,” and “substantial” for “significant.”

*Since.*—This word may be used as a synonym for “because” as well as in its temporal sense:

Since the previous research on this question seemed credible, we chose not to replicate it.

Care should be taken to avoid ambiguity, however, as in the phrase

Since the regulations were implemented, . . .

which can be either causative or temporal.

*That* versus *which*.—As these terms can have different logical implications, AFS style prefers to follow the traditional rule of using “that” to introduce dependent clauses and “which” to introduce independent clauses:

The fish that were moribund. . . . [i.e., only some of the fish were moribund]

The fish, which were moribund, . . . [i.e., all of the fish were moribund]

*The*.—As a rule, the word “the” should be included whenever the statement refers to a particular situation as distinct from a general one:

Channel Catfish [in general] are unusual in this regard.

The [particular] Channel Catfish in our study were unusual in this regard.

However, in the abstract, Methods, and other places in which a more condensed form of expression is desired the word “the” may be omitted from statements referring to particular situations as long as the context is clear:

We obtained a sample consisting of 298 juvenile Chinook Salmon from the Snake River above Hell’s Canyon Dam. At the laboratory, fish were weighed (g), measured (mm), and inspected for gross abnormalities. Fish were then randomly assigned to one of three treatments.

Care must be taken when “the” is used with plurals, however. For instance, the statement

The experts in this area have concluded that. . . .

implies that *all* of these experts have reached the stated conclusion, which may not be the case. When it is not, one should state, for instance, that

Some [Many] experts in this area have concluded that. . . .

The word “the” is also required before some place names:

the Atlantic Ocean the Illinois River the Appalachian Mountains

*but* Antietam Creek Oneida Lake McMillen Reservoir Bonneville Dam Mount Saint Helens

*There is/there are* versus *exists/exist*.—Use the more natural “there is” and “there are” instead of “exists” and “exist”:

There is conclusive evidence that. . . .

*not* Conclusive evidence exists that. . . .

*Using.*—Traditionally, the use of this term was restricted to sentences in the active voice in which the agent is clearly specified:

Using a data logger, we obtained data on water temperature.

Through common usage, however, constructions such as

Data on water temperature were obtained using a data logger.

are now acceptable as long as their meaning is clear.

*Where.*—This term should be used to introduce a relative clause only when it refers to a place or other location:

The sites where spawning occurred were. . . .

*but* Models in which the reproductive rate is exogenous resulted in. . . .

“Where” may be used to define the variables in an equation, however (see section 4.8)

*While.*—This term may be used as a synonym for “although” or “whereas” as well as in a temporal sense:

While the Bluegills were largely unaffected by this change, the White Crappies suffered high mortality.

*With.*—AFS style permits “with” to be used as a conjunction; generally, this construction requires a present participle of the verb:

Several species were identified, with Green Sunfish being the most numerous.

*not* Several species were identified, with Green Sunfish the most numerous.

## OTHER MATTERS

### Voice

AFS style permits authors to use the active voice, the passive voice, or a mixture of the two:

We captured 108 specimens in gill nets deployed at three points within the study section. These fish were transported to the laboratory with 4 h of capture and. . . .

## Verb Tense in Describing Results

A past tense should be used to describe completed actions:

We sampled the fish at each site every 2 weeks for 3 months.

The present tense should be used to describe general or “enduring” results:

Our data suggest that the spawning period is relatively short for this species.

*but* The spawning period was slightly shorter in 1978.

## Conditional Terms

Conditional terms are ones that express possibilities as distinct from definite facts; examples include the terms “perhaps,” “suggests,” and “appears to.” As a rule, there should be only one such term per sentence:

These results suggest that Black Crappies are. . . .

*not* These results suggest that Black Crappies may be. . . .

## Singular versus Plural with Variables

Unless the context clearly calls for a plural, terms referring to variables should be in the singular:

Temperature was recorded at all study sites.

*but* Temperatures were compared across study sites.

## Quantitative Comparisons

Expressions such as

Mortality was four times greater in the second treatment than in the first.

should be avoided because they are ambiguous; logically, the expression “four times greater” means “five times as great,” whereas most authors mean “four times as great.”

In the same vein, the term “times” should be avoided in describing decreases:

The treatment value was one-fourth that of the control.

*not* The treatment value was four times lower than that of the control.

Also avoid using vague comparative terms:

Small fish (<78 mm) suffered greater mortality than larger ones.

*not* Smaller fish suffered greater mortality than larger ones.



## Appendix A. *Spelling List*

This appendix shows the treatment of technical terms that are encountered frequently in AFS publications. There are two lists, one for terms relating to mathematics and statistics and one for other terms. Parts of speech are abbreviated as follows: adj = adjective, adv = adverb, n = noun, and v = verb. Superscripted numerals refer to notes at the end of the appendix.

The sources for the second list are abbreviated as follows: W11 = *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, 11th edition; W3 = *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* (but not W11); and CMS = *Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition.

Asterisks indicate terms that are not in either of the two dictionaries; plus signs indicate terms for which AFS's treatment differs from that in these dictionaries.

### 1. *Mathematical and Statistical Terms*

analysis of variance (n; adj)	Delphi technique
analysis of covariance (n; adj)	Duncan's multiple-range test
arcsine (arcsin in mathematical expressions, e.g., $\arcsin[x + 1]$ )	$E(x)$ (expected value)
arcsine transformation	$\eta$ (eta; amount of variation in a given variable accounted for by ANOVA)
arcsine-transformed	expectation-maximization algorithm
Bartlett's test	error-prone estimates
base $e$ , base 10 (n)	Friedman's rank-sum statistic
base- $e$ , base-10 (adj)	Friedman two-way analysis of variance by ranks
best fit (n)	$F$ -statistic, -test, -value
best-fit (adj)	general linear model (n; adj)
Beverton–Holt	generalized least squares
Bonferroni	$G$ -test, -value
bootstrap	goodness of fit (n)
Chapman–Robson method	goodness-of-fit (adj)
chi-square (or $\chi^2$ ) test (not chi-squared test)	growth-invariant discriminant functions
coefficient of variation (define as $100 \times \text{SD}/\text{mean}$ or $100 \times \text{SE}/\text{mean}$ )	$H_0$ (null hypothesis)
cross-classify	$H_A$ (or $H_a$ ) (alternative hypothesis)
detrended correspondence analysis	habitat suitability curve
discriminant function analysis	Hardy–Weinberg expectation
dome-shaped curve	

heteroscedastic, -icity  
homoscedastic, -icity  
honestly significantly different test  
Hotelling–Lawley criteria  
Hotelling’s  $T^2$ -statistic

Jolly–Seber model  
Jonckheere test

Kendall coefficient of correspondence ( $W$ )  
Kendall rank correlation coefficient ( $\tau$ )  
Kendall’s tau (*or*  $\tau$ )  
Keuls’ test  
Kolmogorov D-statistic  
Kolmogorov–Smirnov cumulative distribution test  
Kolmogorov–Smirnov one-sample test  
 $k$ -sample binomial test ( $2 \times k$  test)  
Kruskal–Wallis  $H$ -test  
Kruskal–Wallis  $k$ -sample test

least significant difference (n)  
least-significant-difference (adj)  
least squares (n)  
least-squares (adj)  
linear discriminant analysis  
 $\log_e$  (*or*  $\ln$ ),  $\log_{10}$   
logistic regression  
log-likelihood function  
log-linear  
lognormal, -ity  
log-transformed (log transformed after its noun)

Mahalanobis distance  
Mann–Whitney  $U$ -test  
Markov chain–Monte Carlo  
maximum likelihood (n; adj)  
mean square error  
Monte Carlo  
multiattribute utility analysis  
multinomial distribution  
multiple comparison procedure  
multiple correlation (n)  
multiple-correlation (adj)

multiple regression (n)  
multiple-regression (adj)  
multisample single recapture model  
multivariate analysis  
multivariate analysis of variance

Newman–Keuls  
nonlinear least-squares regression  
nonuniform probability sampling

one-way analysis of variance

pair-group method  
pairwise comparison  
Pearson’s product-moment correlation coefficient  
Pillai criteria  
product-moment correlation  
product-multinomial sampling  
 $P$ -value

$r$  (correlation coefficient)  
 $R^2$  (coefficient of multiple determination;  
 $r^2$  if only one explanatory variable)  
rank sum (n)  
rank-sum (adj)

Scheffé’s statistic  
Shannon–Weiner diversity index ( $H'$ )  
Shapiro–Wilk  $W$   
signed rank  
sign test  
skewed distribution  
Spearman’s rank correlation coefficient ( $r_s$ )  
square-root-transformed data  
stratified random design (*or* sampling)  
stratified-random-sample model  
Strauss’s linear index  
Student–Newman–Keuls test

time series analysis  
 $t$ -test  
Tukey–Kramer analysis  
Tukey post hoc analysis

Tukey's test  
 two-way analysis of variance  
 type I (or II) error  
  
 unweighted pair-group method with  
 arithmetic averages  
*U*-test  
  
 Var(*x*) (or  $V[x]$ ) (population variance)  
 var (*x*) (or  $\bar{\text{var}}[x]$  or  $\bar{V}[x]$ ) (sample  
 variance)  
 variance–covariance  
  
*W* (Kendall coefficient of  
 correspondence)  
 Wilcoxon–Mann–Whitney two-sample  
 test  
 Wilcoxon matched-pairs, signed-ranks  
 test  
 Wilcoxon rank-sum test  
 Wilcoxon's signed rank test  
 Wilks criterion  
 Wilks' lambda (or  $\lambda$ )  
  
*x*-axis, -coordinate, -intercept  
  
*y*-axis, -coordinate, -intercept

## 2. Other Terms

acid-neutralizing\*  
 acid-tolerant\*  
 acre-foot, acre-feet ( $n^{W11}$ )  
 acre-foot-day ( $n^*$ )  
 acre-inch ( $n^{W11}$ )  
*x* at age ( $n^*$ )  
*x*-at-age (adj)\*  
 age *x* ( $n^*$ )  
  
 age-*x* (adj; age *x* after its noun)\*  
 age-class ( $n^{W3}$ ; adj\*)<sup>17</sup>  
 age-cohort ( $n$ ; adj)<sup>17</sup>  
 age-group ( $n^{W11}$ ; adj\*)<sup>17</sup>

age structure ( $n$ ; adj)\*  
 air bladder ( $n^{W11}$ ; adj\*)<sup>24</sup>  
 air-breathing (adj)\*  
 air-dried (adj;  $v^*$ )  
 air-dry ( $v^{W11}$ )  
 air sac ( $n^{W11}$ ) [in birds only]  
 air stone ( $n$ ; adj)  
 alongshore (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 ammonia nitrogen or  $\text{NH}_3\text{-N}$  ( $n^{W3}$ ; adj\*)  
 ammonium nitrate ( $n^{W11}$ ; adj\*)  
 ammonium nitrogen or  $\text{NH}_4^+\text{-N}$  ( $n^{W3}$ ;  
 adj\*)  
 angler data ( $n$ ; adj)\*  
 angler-day ( $n^*$ )<sup>19</sup>  
 angler effort ( $n$ ; adj)\*  
 angler-hour ( $n^*$ )<sup>19</sup>  
 appendices or appendixes ( $n^{W11}$ )  
 aquaculture [*not* aquiculture]  
 artificial intelligence ( $n^{W11}$ ; adj\*)  
  
 back-calculate ( $v^*$ )  
 back-calculation ( $n^*$ )  
 backwater ( $n^{W11}$ )  
 baitfish ( $n^{W3}$ )  
 bait line ( $n$ ; adj)\*  
 bait minnow (adj)\*  
 bank fish ( $n^{W3}$ ; adj\*)  
 bank-full (adj)<sup>W3</sup>  
 barbed wire ( $n^{W11}$ )  
 barbed-wire (adj)\*  
 barbwire ( $n$ ; adj)\*  
 bar code ( $n^{W11}$ ; adj\*)  
 base flow ( $n$ ; adj)\*  
 baseplate ( $n^{W3}$ )  
 B cell ( $n^{W11}$ ; adj\*)<sup>11</sup>  
 bedform  
 bed load ( $n$ ; adj)\*  
 benefit-cost or cost-benefit (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 binary code ( $n^*$ )  
 binary-coded wire tag (adj)\*  
 biotelemetry ( $n^{W11}$ )  
 blacktail ( $n^{W3}$ )  
 bleb-like (adj)\*<sup>21</sup>  
 block net ( $n^*$ )  
 block-net (adj)\*  
 blocknet ( $v^*$ )

block-netter (n)\*  
 block netting (n)\*  
 block-netting (adj)\*  
 blow down (v)\*  
 blowdown (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
*x* boat *or* *x*boat (n)<sup>18</sup>  
 bottom fish (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 bottom fishing (n<sup>W3</sup>)  
 box plot (n)\*  
 brackish water (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 brackish-water (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 break up (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 breakup (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 breakwater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 brewer's yeast (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 brood female (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 broodfish (n)\*  
 broodsac (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 broodstock (n)+  
 brood year (n; adj)\*<sup>20</sup>  
 bus route (n; adj)\*  
 bycatch (n)\*  
 by-product (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
  
 carbon-14 (n; adj)+  
 case history (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 cast net (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 cast-net (adj)\*  
 castnet (v)\*  
 catch curve (n)  
 catch-curve (adj)  
 catch depletion method  
 catch-release (adj)\*  
 catch and release (n)\*  
 catch-and-release (adj)\*  
 catch per effort *or* catch per unit effort  
 (n)\*  
 catch-per-effort *or* catch-per-unit-effort  
 (adj)\*  
 char (n)<sup>W11</sup> [*not* *charr*]  
 charter boat (n)\*  
 charter boat *or* charter-boat (adj\*)<sup>18</sup>  
 charter fishing boat (n)\*  
 chlorophyll *a* (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 chlorophyll-*a* (adj)\*  
 clear-cut (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup>

clear-cut (v)\*  
 clear-cutting (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 cobalt-60 (n; adj)+<sup>15</sup>  
 coded wire tag (n; adj)\*  
 coded-wire-tagged (adj; v)\*  
 coded wire tagging (n)\*  
 coded-wire-tagging (adj)\*  
 cod end (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 cold brand (n)\*<sup>8</sup>  
 cold-brand (adj; v)\*<sup>8</sup>  
 cold water (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 coldwater (adj)+  
 cold-water disease (adj)\*  
 common property (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 common-property (adj)\*  
 compact disc (n)<sup>W11, 23</sup>  
 contingent valuation (n; adj)\*  
 cool water (n)\*  
 coolwater (adj)\*  
 cost-benefit (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 coworker (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cove rotenone sampling  
 creel (n; v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 crosshatch (n; v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross-hatching (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross-react (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross-reaction (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross-reactive (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross section (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross-section (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross-sectional (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 cross validate (v)\*  
 cross validation (n)\*  
 cut bank (n; adj)\*  
  
 daphnia (n)<sup>W11</sup> [define as *Daphnia* spp.  
 at first use]  
 data (n)<sup>W11</sup> [singular: datum; data takes  
 plural verb]  
 database (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 data logger (n; adj)\*  
 data set (n)\*  
*x*-day<sup>19</sup>  
 day length (n; adj)\*  
 decision maker (n; adj)\*<sup>1</sup>  
 decision making (n)\*<sup>2</sup>

decision-making (adj)\*<sup>2</sup>  
 deep sea (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 deep-sea (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 deep water (n)\*  
 deepwater (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 deepwaterman (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 degree-day (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 Dermo (n)\*  
 desktop (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 die off (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 die-off (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 dip net (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 dip-net (adj)\*  
 dipnet (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 dipnetter (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 dipnetting (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 disc brake (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)<sup>23</sup>  
 disk *or* disc (n)<sup>W11, 23</sup>  
 distiller's (adj)+  
 D-loop (n; adj)  
 dome-shaped (adj)\*  
 dorsolateral (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 dorsoventral (adj)<sup>W11</sup> [*not* dorsiventral]  
 dorsoventrally (adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 double-tag (v)\*  
 double-tagged (adj)\*  
 downcurrent  
 downlake (adj; adv)\*  
 download (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 downstream (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 drift net

early *x or* early-*x* (adj)<sup>W11</sup>)<sup>3</sup>  
 early (adv)<sup>W11</sup>)<sup>3</sup>  
 echolocation (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 echo sounder (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 echo sounding (n)\*  
 echo-sounding (adj)\*  
 ecosystem-wide (adj)\*<sup>22</sup>  
 e-mail (n; adj)+  
 end label (n; adj)\*  
 end-labeled (adj)\*  
 endpoint (n)<sup>W11</sup> [*end of line*]  
 end point (n)<sup>W11</sup> [*objective*]  
 exvessel (n)\* [*prevailing usage*]  
 eyed egg (n)<sup>W3</sup>

eyed egg stage (adj)\*  
 eye-up (n; adj)\*

family-group (n; adj)\*  
 fax (n; v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 fieldwork (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 field-worker (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 filterability (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 filterable (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 filter-feed (v)\*  
 filter feeder (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 filter feeding (n)\*  
 filter-feeding (adj)\*  
 fin clip (n; adj)\*  
 fin-clipped, fin-clipping (v)\*  
 fin clipping (n)  
 finfish (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 fin fold (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)<sup>5</sup>  
 fin ray (n; adj)\*  
 first-order (adj)<sup>W11, 16</sup>  
 fish culture (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 fish culturist (n)\*  
 fish farm (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 fish-farm (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 fish-farming (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 fish-finder (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 fish hatchery (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 fish ladder (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 fishline (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 fish meal (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 fishnet (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 fishpond (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 fishpound (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 fishway (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 fishweir (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 fish well (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 fish wheel (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 floppy disk (n)<sup>W11, 23</sup>  
 flowmeter (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 flow rate (n; adj)\*  
 fly-fish (v)<sup>W3</sup>  
 fly fisher (n; adj)+  
 fly fisherman (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 fly-fishing (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 focal point (n; adj)\*  
*xfold or x-fold* [*e.g., fourfold, 14-fold*]

food fish (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 footrope (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 FORTRAN *or* Fortran (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 freeze brand (n; v)\*<sup>8</sup>  
 freeze-branded (adj; v)\*<sup>8</sup>  
 freeze branding (n)\*<sup>8</sup>  
 freeze-branding (adj; v)\*<sup>8</sup>  
 freeze-dried (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 freeze-dry (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 freeze-drying (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 freshwater (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup> [as opposed to salt  
 or brackish water]  
 fresh water (n) [new water]  
 full time (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 full-time (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 fyke net (n)  
 fyke netting (n)  
 fyke-net (adj; v)

gallbladder (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 game fish (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 game fisherman (n; adj)\*  
 game-fishing (n; adj)\*  
 gamma irradiation (n)\*  
 gas bladder (n; adj)<sup>24</sup>  
 gauge (n; v)<sup>W11</sup> [*not* gage]  
 generating station (n)<sup>W3, 4</sup>  
 gill net (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 gill-net (adj)\*  
 gillnet (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 gillnetter (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 gill netting (n)\*  
 gillnetting (v)\*  
 gill raker (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 gray (adj)<sup>W11</sup> [*not* grey]  
 groundfish (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 groundfish fishery (n)\* [preferable  
 to groundfishery]  
 ground truth (adj)\*  
 ground-truth (v)  
 ground-truthing (n)\*  
 groundwater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 group *x*<sup>17</sup>  
 grow out (v)<sup>W3</sup>  
 grow out (n)\*  
 grow-out (adj)\*

handline (n; v)<sup>W3</sup>  
 hard water (n)\*  
 hard-water (adj)\*  
 haulback  
 headboat (n)\*<sup>18</sup>  
 headrope (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 headstream (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 headwater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 herpesvirus (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 high sea (n)<sup>W11</sup> [usually plural]  
 high-sea (adj)\*  
 high water (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 high-water (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 hook and line (n)\*  
 hook-and-line (adj)\*  
 hook-and-liner (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*) [the boat]  
*x*-hour<sup>19</sup>  
 hydro (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup> [short for hydropower]  
 hydrox<sup>W11</sup>  
 hydroelectric (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 hydropower (n)<sup>W11</sup>

ice melt (n; adj)\*  
 ice-out (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 image-processing (adj)\*  
 index (n)<sup>W11</sup> [plural: indices *or* indexes]  
 inflow (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 inflow (v)<sup>W3</sup>  
*xing*<sup>2</sup>  
 in-lake (adj)\*  
 in-river (adj)\*  
 inshore (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 in stream (n)\*  
 instream (adj)\*  
 interisland (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 intervertebral disk (n)<sup>W11, 23</sup>  
 in vitro (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup> [not italic]  
 in vivo (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup> [not italic]  
 iteroparous (adj)\*

johnboat (n)<sup>W11, 18</sup>  
 kick-sampling (n; adj)\*  
 kick-seining (n; adj)\*  
*x*-kilometer<sup>19</sup>

lake bed (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*) [lakebed all right  
when used with streambed]  
lakefront (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
lakeshore (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
lakeside (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
lake water (n; adj)\*  
laptop (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
large-scale (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
larva (n)<sup>W11</sup> [plural: larvae]  
larval (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
lateral line (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)<sup>5</sup>  
lateroventral (n)\*  
length-cohort (n; adj)\*<sup>17</sup>  
length frequency (n)\*  
length frequency *or* length-frequency  
(adj)\*<sup>25</sup>  
length-group (n; adj)\*<sup>17</sup>  
length-weight (adj)\* [length and weight]  
length : weight (adj)\* [length to weight]  
leukocrit (n)\*  
leukocyte (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
life cycle (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
life history (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
life-size *or* life-sized (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
life span (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj \*)  
life stage (n; adj)\*  
lifestyle (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
lifetime (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
light pen (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
lightproof (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
light stick (n; adj)\*  
lightweight (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
xlike<sup>21</sup>  
limited access (n)\*  
limited-access (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
limited entry (n)\*  
limited-entry (adj)\*  
live-box (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
live-cage (n; adj)\*  
live trap (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
live-trap (adj)\*  
livetrap (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
liveweight (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
live well (n)<sup>W3</sup> [live-box for fish]  
live-well (adj)\*  
long-line (v)\*

longline (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
long-liner (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
long-lining (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
long-lived (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
longshore (adj)<sup>W3</sup>  
long-term (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
longtime (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
low-head (adj)  
  
mainframe (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
main stem (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
main-stem (adj)\*  
mainstream (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
x maker<sup>1</sup>  
x making<sup>2</sup>  
mark-recapture (n; adj)\*  
mass mark (n)\*<sup>9</sup>  
mass-mark (v)\*<sup>9</sup>  
mass-marked (adj)\*<sup>9</sup>  
mass marking (n)\*<sup>9</sup>  
mass-marking (adj)\*<sup>9</sup>  
megalops (n)<sup>W3</sup> [plural: megalops  
*or* megalopses]<sup>W11</sup>  
megalopic (adj)<sup>W3</sup>  
meltwater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
microchip (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
microcomputer (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
microwell plate (n; adj)  
microwire tag (n)\*  
microwire-tagged (adj; v)\*  
mid (adj)<sup>W11</sup> *or* mid-<sup>6</sup>  
middepth (n)\*<sup>6</sup>  
midwater (n+; adj)\*<sup>6</sup>  
x-mile<sup>19</sup>  
minicomputer (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
minimum size limit (n)\*  
minimum-size-limit (adj)\*  
mixed-stock analysis (n)\*  
mollusk [preferred] *or* mollusc (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
xmost (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
mother ship (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
mother ship *or* mothership (adj)\*  
motorboat (n)<sup>W11, 18</sup>  
mouthbreeder (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
mouthbrooder (n)\*  
mouth-brooding (adj)\*

multispecies (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 near shore (n)\*  
 nearshore (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 net-day; net-night (n)\*<sup>19</sup>  
 net-pen (n; adj)\*  
 net lift  
 net plankton (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 network (n; v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 networking (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 neutron activation (n; adj)\*  
 nick translation (n; adj)\*  
 nick-translated [open after noun]  
 nitrate-nitrogen *or* NO<sub>3</sub>-N (n)\*  
 nitrite-nitrogen *or* NO<sub>2</sub>-N (n)\*  
 nonangler (n)\*  
 nonnative (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 nonnormal (n)\*  
 non-point-source (adj)\*<sup>13</sup>  
 non-yolk-bearing (adj)\*<sup>13</sup>  
 number crunching (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 number-crunching (adj)\*  
  
 off-center *or* off-centered (adj)<sup>W3</sup>  
 off shore (n)\*  
 offshore (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 off-station (adj)\*  
 old growth (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 old-growth (adj)\*  
 onboard (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 on site (n)\*  
 on-site (adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 open-formula diet (n)\*  
 open water (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 open-water (adj)\*  
 optical disk *or* disc (n)<sup>W11, 23</sup>  
 x-order<sup>16</sup>  
 out-migrant (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 out-migrate (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 out-migration (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 overfish (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 overfishing (n)  
 overwinter (v; adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
  
 Pascal *or* PASCAL (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 pattern recognition (adj)\*

PC (n)<sup>W11</sup> [personal computer]  
 percent (n; adj; adv)<sup>W11</sup>  
 percentage (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 Petersen disc (n; adj)\*  
 phone book (n; adj)\*  
 phosphorous (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 phosphorus (n)<sup>W11</sup> [the element]  
 physicochemical (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 PIT tag (n; adj)\*  
 PIT-tag (v)\*  
 PIT tagging (n)\*  
 point source (adj)\*  
 policymaker (n)\*<sup>1</sup>  
 pond water (n; adj)\*  
 pop net (n)\*  
 pop-net (adj)\*  
 postx  
 poststocking (adj)\*  
 powerhouse (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 power plant (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)<sup>4</sup>  
 power station (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)<sup>4</sup>  
 predator-prey (adj)\*  
 presmolt (n; adj)\*  
 prey fish (n; adj)\*  
 pre-yolk-sac (adj)\*<sup>13</sup>  
 proteinase *K*  
 purse seine *or* purse net (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 purse-seine (adj; v)\*<sup>10</sup>  
 purse seiner (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 purse seining (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 purse-seining (adj)\*  
 push net (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 push-net (adj)\*  
  
 quasix (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
  
 radio tag (n; adj)\*<sup>12</sup>  
 radio-tag (v)\*<sup>12</sup>  
 radio-tagged (adj; v)\*<sup>12</sup>  
 radiotelemetry (n)<sup>W11, 12</sup>  
 radio-track (v)\*  
 radio-tracked (v; adj)\*  
 radio transmitter (n<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 rain forest (n<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 rebar (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 recirculating water (adj)



riverbank (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 riverbed (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 RNase (n)<sup>W11</sup> [*not* RNAase]  
 rootwad (n)\*  
 R plasmid (n)\*<sup>11</sup>  
 run off (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 runoff (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
  
 sagitta (n)<sup>W3</sup> [plural: sagittas *or* sagittae]  
 saltfish (n)\*  
 salt lake (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 salt marsh (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 salt-marsh (adj)<sup>W3</sup>  
 salt water (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 saltwater (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 seabed (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 seafloor (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 sea grass (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 sea ice (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 sea level (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 sea pen (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*) [an anthozoan]  
 sea-pen (n; adj)\* [type of net-pen]  
 sea ranching (n)\*  
 sea-ranching (adj)\*  
 sea-run (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 sea-running (adj)<sup>W3</sup>; v\*)  
 sea surface (adj)\*  
 seawater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 Secchi disk (n; adj)\*  
 second growth (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 second-growth (adj)\*<sup>16</sup>  
 second-order (adj)<sup>W3, 16</sup>  
 seine (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 seine *or* seine net (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 seine *or* seine-net (adj)\*  
 seiner *or* seine-netter (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 semelparous (adj)\*  
 serum (n)<sup>W11</sup> [plural: sera *or* serums]  
 setline (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 shallow water (n)\*  
 shallow-water (adj)\*  
 shoreline (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 short tandem repeat (n; adj)  
 short term (n)\*  
 short-term (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 side-scan sonar (n)<sup>W11</sup>

single-nucleotide polymorphism  
*x*-size *or* *x*-sized  
 size-class (n; adj)\*  
 size-frequency (adj)\*  
 size-group (n; adj)\*<sup>17</sup>  
 size range (n)\*  
 size-selective (adj)\* [size selective after noun]  
 snowmelt (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 sociocultural (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 socioeconomic (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 socioeconomics (n)\*  
 software (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 soft water (n)\*  
 soft-water (adj)\*  
 species' [possessive]  
 species composition (n; adj)\*  
*x*-specific  
 speedboat (n)<sup>W11, 18</sup>  
 sport fish (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 sport fisherman (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*) [the person]  
 sportfisherman (n)<sup>W11</sup> [the boat]  
 sport fishery (n; adj)\*  
 sportfishing (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 sportfishing (adj)\*  
 spreadsheet (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 springwater (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 stainless steel (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 starch gel (n; adj)\*  
 state-space (n; adj)  
 steady state (n; adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 stock–recruit (adj)\*  
 stock–recruitment (n; adj)\*  
 stop-log (n)  
 streambank (n)\*  
 streambed (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 streamflow (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 streamside (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 strip-spawned (adj; v)\*  
 strip-spawning (n; adj)\*  
 superphosphate (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 surface water (n; adj)\*  
 surplus production model  
 swim bladder (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)<sup>24</sup>  
 swim-up (n; adj)\*

tag-release (n; adj)\*  
 tailwater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 tap water (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 T cell (n; adj)<sup>W11, 11</sup>  
 thin section (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 thin-section (v)\*  
 third-order (adj)<sup>W3, 16</sup>  
 tidewater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 timesaving (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 time series (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)  
 tow net *or* towing net (n)+  
 townet (v; adj)\*  
 trapline (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 trap net (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 trap-net (adj)\*  
 trap-net (v)\*  
 trap-netting (n; v)\*  
 travel cost (n; adj)\*  
 T wave (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 T-wave (adj)\*  
 type *x*; *x*-type<sup>17</sup>  
 type A (adj)<sup>W11, 17</sup>  
 type species (n)<sup>W11</sup>; adj\*)

ultraviolet-A  
 un-ionized (adj)\*  
 uranium-235 (n; adj)+<sup>15</sup>

video camera (n)\*  
 video-camera (adj)\*  
 videocassette (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 videodisc (n)<sup>W11, 23</sup>  
 videotape (n; v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 video terminal (n)\*  
 virus-like (adj)\*<sup>21</sup>  
 vitamin *x* (adj)  
 vitamin-C-free diet

warm water (n)<sup>W3</sup>  
 warmwater (adj)<sup>W3</sup>  
 wastewater (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 waterborne (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 water column (n)<sup>W3</sup>; adj\*)  
 water-hardened (adj; v\*)

water hardening (n)\*  
 water-hardening (adj)\*  
 waterpower (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 water quality (n; adj)\*  
 water year (n; adj)\*<sup>20</sup>  
 weigh in (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 weigh-in (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 weight frequency (n)\*  
 weight frequency *or* weight-frequency  
 (adj)\*<sup>25</sup>  
 weight-length (n; adj)\*  
 well-being (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 well-known (adj)<sup>W11</sup> [*but* very well  
 known (adj)]  
 well water (n; adj)\*  
 white water (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 white-water (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
*x*wide<sup>22</sup>  
 widespread (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 wide-spreading (adj)<sup>W11</sup>  
 willingness to pay (n)\*  
 willingness-to-pay (adj)\*  
 winter-kill (v)<sup>W11</sup>  
 winterkill (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 worksheet (n+; adj\*)

X-radiation (n)<sup>W11</sup>  
 X-ray (n; adj; v)<sup>W11</sup>  
*x*-section (n)<sup>W11</sup> [cross-section preferred]  
*x*-year *or* *x* year<sup>19,20</sup>

year-class (n)+<sup>14</sup>  
 year-class (adj)\*  
*x*-year-old(s) (n; adj)\*<sup>7</sup>  
 yield per recruit (n)  
 yield-per-recruit (adj)  
 young of year *or* young of the year (n)  
 young-of-year *or* young-of-the-year  
 (adj.)  
 [abbreviate as age 0/age-0]

zoea (n)<sup>W11</sup> [plural: zoeae *or* zoeas]  
 zoal (adj)<sup>W3</sup>

## Notes

In the following notes the term “open” refers to a compound word in which the components are separated by spaces (e.g., “point source”) and the term “closed” to a compound word in which the components are not separated by spaces (e.g., “warmwater”).

1. decision maker, *x* maker: Most compounds involving “maker” are open, but “policymaker” is an important exception.
2. decision making; *x*-ing: Temporary compounds formed from a noun and a gerund are generally open as nouns, but many permanent compounds are closed (e.g., bookkeeping). Adjectival compounds formed from a noun and a present participle are hyphenated before the nouns they modify (e.g., decision-making event), and a few permanent compounds are hyphenated after the noun as well (e.g., thought-provoking).
3. early: When used as an adjective, “early” can be hyphenated (e.g., early-life behavior). However, it may be better to rewrite some phrases (e.g., to use the adverbial form “early migrating salmon” instead of the adjectival form “early-migrant salmon”). Phrases such as “early life history” are not hyphenated because combinations like “life history” and “life stage” are treated as compound nouns (i.e., “early” modifies “life history”).
4. generating plant, generating station: These terms are open compound nouns, so modifiers preceding “generating” are not followed by hyphens (e.g., power generating station, electricity generating plant). (Note: A nuclear plant is not always a nuclear power generating plant [e.g., the Savannah River site produces nuclear material for defense rather than electricity]).
5. fin fold, lateral line: Names of body parts should be treated as open compound nouns and not hyphenated when used as adjectives.
6. mid, middepth, etc.: The word “mid” can be treated as an adjective, but AFS generally prefers to treat it as a prefix (e.g., midseason, midyear). It is hyphenated when it modifies a proper noun, date, or number (e.g., mid-August, mid-1988). If it is separated from its stem by other words, it can stand alone (e.g., mid to late March *but* early to mid-March).
7. *x*-year-olds: There is some inconsistency in Webster’s dictionaries with

respect to these terms. AFS uses the hyphenated form for the noun as well as the adjective.

8. cold brand, freeze brand: Although many compound nouns with the word “freeze” are hyphenated in Webster’s dictionaries, nearly all compound nouns with the word “cold” are open; AFS has therefore chosen to leave all such terms open. Most compound nouns with the word “freezing” are open (e.g., freezing point), but most of the adjectival forms have hyphens (e.g., freezing-point measurement).
9. mass mark, etc: Webster’s dictionaries leave most compounds with “mass” open when they are nouns but hyphenate the adjectival and verb forms.
10. purse-seine: The verb form is hyphenated for clarity, even though most of the verbs pertaining to capture techniques are closed (e.g., gillnet).
11. B cell, R plasmid, T cell: All cytological entities designated by a capital letter should be left open as nouns and adjectives (e.g., T cell deficiency, B leukocyte measurements) unless treated otherwise in W11 or hyphens are needed because of the construction (e.g., T-cell-dependent antigens).
12. radio tag, etc.: Webster’s dictionaries close up all “radio” prefixes when they refer to radioactivity. When the reference is to the radio frequency spectrum, most such terms are open as nouns.
13. non-yolk-bearing, pre-yolk-sac: When a prefix is added to a hyphenated word, a hyphen should come after the prefix.
14. year-class: W3 lists “year class” as a noun, the only instance of an open “-class” or “- group” term. For editorial consistency, AFS hyphenates this term as a noun.
15. carbon-14, cobalt-60, uranium-235: Although these isotopes are open in W11, the standard practice in scientific writing is to place a hyphen between the spelled-out element name and the mass number. When the element symbol is used, the number should be a superscript placed before the symbol (e.g., <sup>32</sup>P).
16. first-order, second-growth: All rank-order compound adjectives are hyphenated.
17. age-group, size-group, length-cohort; type *x*, *x*-type: Do not hyphenate adjectives of the forms “type *x*” and “group *x*” unless hyphenation is needed for clarity.

Hyphenate all compound nouns and adjectives that end in “cohort,” “group,” or “type.”

18. *x* boat, *x*boat: Many boat types are open (e.g., charter boat, drift boat); others are closed (e.g., headboat, johnboat, motorboat, and speedboat). Open compounds can either be left open or hyphenated when used as adjectives.
19. angler-day, angler-hour, net-day; *x*-day, *x*-hour, *x*-kilometer, *x*-mile: Use a hyphen in these rate or effort terms and in specialized units of measure such as light-year (distance) and acre-foot (volume).
20. brood year, water year, etc.: These noun–noun combinations are measures of time (although they may be different from the calendar year); they are not efforts or rates (e.g., angler-hour) or units of measure (e.g., light-year), and like “fiscal year,” they are left open as nouns and adjectives.
21. bleb-like, virus-like; *x*like: Words formed with the suffix “like” are generally closed. However, “bleb-like” and “virus-like” are hyphenated for clarity and to follow common usage in the fish health literature.
22. ecosystem-wide; *x*wide: Words with the suffix “wide” are generally closed; however, CMS allows them to be hyphenated if the root word is long or of several (more than two) syllables (thus “ecosystem-wide” but “systemwide”).
23. compact disc, disc brakes, etc.: There is considerable variation in W11 in the use of “disk” versus “disc,” the former appearing to be the preferred spelling for most noncomputer terms except “disc brakes.” Use “disk” for electronic storage media and “disc” for optical and video storage media, and follow the dictionary for other words.
24. air bladder, gas bladder, swim bladder: These open compounds refer to the hydrostatic organ present in most fish. “Air bladder” and “gas bladder” are preferable to “swim bladder.” “Air sac” should be reserved for the air-filled space in birds.
25. length frequency, weight frequency: In keeping with the move toward not hyphenating noun–noun combinations used as adjectives, AFS no longer enforces its previous standard of hyphenating *x*-frequency words when they are used as adjectives. Hyphenated forms are acceptable, however.

## APPENDIX B. *Symbols, Abbreviations, and Acronyms*

### *1. Standard symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms*

The following symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms, along with others that are approved for the International System of Units or that appear in *Webster's Third New International Dictionary* or the current edition of *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary*, may be used without definition. Note, however, (1) that English units may only be used in two AFS journals—the *North American Journal of Aquaculture* and the *North American Journal of Fisheries Management*—and (2) that additional symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms may be approved for use without definition in specific AFS books (check with the books editor for such terms).

#### *Prefixes*

giga ( $10^9$ )	G
mega ( $10^6$ )	M
kilo ( $10^3$ )	k
milli ( $10^{-3}$ )	m
micro ( $10^{-6}$ )	$\mu$
nano ( $10^{-9}$ )	n
pico ( $10^{-12}$ )	p

#### *Time and Temperature*

day	d
hour	h
minute	min
second	s
degrees Celsius ( $[\text{°F} - 32]/1.8$ )	°C
degrees Fahrenheit ( $[1.8 \times \text{°C}] + 32$ )	°F

(Spell out year, month, and week.)

#### *Weights and Measures (Metric)*

catch per unit effort (define mathematically, e.g., number/net-night)	CPUE
centimeter	cm

meter (1.09 yd, 3.28 ft, 39.4 in)	m
kilometer (0.622 mi)	km
gram (0.0353 oz)	g
kilogram (2.20 lb)	kg
liter (0.264 gal, 1.06 qt)	L
deciliter	dL
hectare (2.47 acres)	ha
nephelometric turbidity units	NTU
practical salinity units	psu
fork length	FL
standard length	SL
total length	TL

(Spell out metric ton [1,000 kg {2,200 lb}].)

#### *Weights and Measures (English)*

inch (2.54 cm)	in
foot (30.5 cm)	ft
cubic feet per second (0.0283 m <sup>3</sup> /s)	ft <sup>3</sup> /s
yard (0.914 m, 91.4 cm)	yd
mile (1.61 km)	mi
ounce (28.4 g)	oz
pound (0.454 kg, 454 g)	lb
quart (0.946 L)	qt
gallon (3.79 L)	gal

(Spell out acre [0.405 ha] and ton [2,000 lb or 907 kg])

#### *Mathematics and Statistics*

analysis of variance	ANOVA
analysis of covariance	ANCOVA
base of natural logarithms	<i>e</i>
coefficient of variation (define mathematically, e.g., 100 · SD/mean)	CV
common test statistics	<i>F</i> , <i>t</i> , etc.
confidence interval	CI
correlation or regression coefficient	
multiple	<i>R</i>
simple	<i>r</i>
covariance	cov

degree (angular)	°
degrees of freedom	df
expected value	$E$
logarithm	
natural	$\log_e$ or $\ln$
base $a$	$\log_a$
minute (angular)	'
not significant	NS
percent	%
probability	$P$
probability of type I error (false rejection of null hypothesis)	$P_\alpha$ or $\alpha$
probability of type II error (false acceptance of null hypothesis)	$\beta$
radian	rad
sample size	$N$ or $n$
second (angular)	"
standard deviation	SD
standard error	SE
steradian	sr
variance	
population	$V$ or $\text{Var}$
sample	var

### *Physics and Chemistry*

all atomic symbols	H, He, etc.
alternating current	AC
ampere	A
base pairs	bp
becquerel	Bq
calorie (joule preferred)	cal
candela	cd
chemical acronyms in dictionary	DDT, EDTA, etc.
coulomb	C
deoxynucleotide triphosphate	dNTP
dextro configuration	D
dextrorotary	$d$
direct current	DC
electron volt	eV
equivalent	eq
farad	F
footcandle (0.0929 lx)	fc



gravity	<i>g</i>
gray	Gy
hertz	Hz
horsepower (746 W)	hp
hydrogen ion activity (negative log)	pH
joule	J
levo configuration	L
levorotary	<i>l</i>
lumen	lm
lux	lx
molar	M
mole	mol
newton	N
normal	N
ohm	$\Omega$
ortho	<i>o</i>
para	<i>p</i>
parts per million (in the metric system, use mg/L, mg/kg, etc.)	ppm
parts per thousand	ppt, ‰
pascal	Pa
passive integrated transponder	PIT
polymerase chain reaction	PCR
polyvinyl chloride	PVC
siemens (= mho, $\Omega^{-1}$ )	S
tesla	T
tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane	tris
volt	V
watt	W
weber	Wb

### *General*

American Type Culture Collection	ATCC
colony-forming units	CFU
compass directions (maps and coordinates)	
east	E
north	N
south	S
west	W
corporate designations	
Company	Co.
Corporation	Corp.
Incorporated	Inc.
Limited	Ltd.

District of Columbia	D.C.
et alii	et al.
et cetera	etc.
filial generation	F
for example	e.g.,
geographical information system(s)	GIS
Global Positioning System	GPS
international units	IU
months in tables and figures	Jan, Feb, Mar, etc.
plaque-forming units	PFU
ploidy	n
sex in tables, figures, and hybrids	
female	♀
male	♂
that is	i.e.,
units	U
United Kingdom	UK
United States	
noun	USA
adjective	U.S.

## ***2. Other symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms***

The following symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms are also commonly used in AFS publications. Unlike those in section 1, however, they must be spelled out in full at first use. Alternatives may also be used as long as they are defined.

Ab	antibody
ARMA	autoregressive–moving average
BCWD	bacterial coldwater disease
BHI(A)	brain–heart infusion (agar)
BKD	bacterial kidney disease
BOD	biological ( <i>or</i> biochemical) oxygen demand
BP	before present (radiocarbon dating; 1950 = present)
BSA	bovine serum albumin
CCL	certified cell line (ATCC designation)
CCV	Channel Catfish virus

cdf	cumulative density function ( <i>cf.</i> pdf)
CHH	Chum Salmon heart (a cell line)
CHSE	Chinook Salmon embryo (a cell line)
CL	(1) certified cell line (variant of CCL); (2) confidence limit
CPE	(1) catch per effort; (2) cytopathic effect
CRL	cell repository line (ATCC designation)
cRNA	complementary RNA
CSE	Coho Salmon embryo (a cell line)
CTM	critical thermal maximum
DBA	dot blot analysis ( <i>or</i> assay)
DIDSON	dual-frequency imaging sonar
DO	dissolved oxygen
EIS	environmental impact statement
ELIFA	enzyme-linked immunofiltration assay
ELISA	enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
EMAP	Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EPA)
EMEM	Eagle's minimum essential medium
ENSO	El Niño–Southern Oscillation
ENV	erythrocytic necrosis virus
EPC	epithelioma papillosum cyprini <sup>1</sup>
ERM	enteric redmouth (disease)
ESU	evolutionarily significant unit
<i>F</i>	instantaneous fishing mortality
$F_{\text{MAX}}$	fishing mortality at which yield per recruit is at a maximum
FAME	fatty acid methyl ester
FHM	Fathead Minnow (a cell line)
GH	growth hormone
GLC	gas–liquid chromatography
GLM	general linear model
GLS	generalized least squares
GnRH	gonadotropin-releasing hormone (synonym of LHRH)
GSI	gonadosomatic index
GtH	gonadotropic hormone
H&E	hematoxylin and eosin ( <i>or</i> HE; a group of stains)
Hb	hemoglobin
HBSS	Hanks' balanced salt solution
HCG	human chorionic gonadotropin
Hct	hematocrit
HPI axis	hypothalamic–pituitary–interrenal axis
HPLC	high-performance liquid chromatography

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<sup>1</sup> A cell line derived from an epithelial tumor of Common Carp.

HSD	honestly significantly different ( <i>or</i> honestly significant difference)
HUFA	highly unsaturated fatty acid
IBI	index of biotic integrity
ICP	inductively coupled argon plasma emission spectrometry
ID	inside diameter
IgA	immunoglobulin A (other immunoglobulins: IgD, IgE, IgG, IgM)
IHNV	infectious hematopoietic necrosis virus
<i>I<sub>n</sub></i>	incipient lethal temperature
INAD	investigational new animal drug (a type of FDA permit)
ip	( <i>or</i> i.p.) intraperitoneal(ly)
IPNV	infectious pancreatic necrosis virus
<i>K</i>	condition factor (usually $10^5 \times \text{weight} / \text{fork length}^3$ )
K/A	alkaline/acid
KDM	kidney disease medium
LC50	concentration lethal to 50% of test organisms in a specified time
LD50	dose lethal to 50% of test organisms in a specified time
LH	luteinizing hormone
LHRF	luteinizing hormone releasing factor (synonym for LHRH)
LHRH	luteinizing hormone releasing hormone
LILT	lower incipient lethal temperature
LOEC	lowest-observed-effect concentration
LPS	lipopolysaccharide
LSD	least significant difference
LT50	temperature lethal to 50% of test organisms in a specified time
LWD	large woody debris
<i>M</i>	instantaneous natural mortality
MAb	( <i>or</i> MoAb) monoclonal antibody
MANOVA	multivariate analysis of variance
MATC	maximum acceptable toxicant concentration
<i>m/e</i>	( <i>or m/z</i> ) ratio of molecular mass to ionic charge
MEI	morphoedaphic index
MEM	minimum essential medium
meq	milliequivalents (blood Na and K often expressed as meq/L)
MIC	minimum inhibitory concentration
mil	measure of thickness (1 mil = 0.001 in = 0.0254 mm)
MS	mean square
MSE	mean square error
MSH	melanocyte-stimulating hormone
msl	mean sea level
MSY	maximum sustainable yield
NOEC	no-observed-effect concentration

nRNA	nuclear RNA
OD	(1) optical density; (2) outside diameter
OLS	ordinary least squares
OSY	optimum sustainable yield
OTC	oxytetracycline
PAGE	polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis
PAH	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon
PAS	periodic acid–Schiff (a stain)
PAUP	phylogenetic analysis using parsimony
PBS	phosphate-buffered saline
PC(A)	principal component (analysis)
Pco <sub>2</sub>	( <i>or pCO<sub>2</sub></i> ) partial pressure of CO <sub>2</sub>
PCR	polymerase chain reaction
pdf	probability density function
PGD	proliferative gill disease
Po <sub>2</sub>	( <i>or pO<sub>2</sub></i> ) partial pressure of oxygen gas
PONAR	dredge used to sample sediments ( <i>not spelled out</i> )
PSD	proportional stock density
PUFA	polyunsaturated fatty acid
$Q$	discharge or flow of water <sup>2</sup>
$Q_{10}$	factor by which a physiological rate increases per 10°C rise in temperature
RAPD	randomly amplified polymorphic DNA
RBC	( <i>or rbc</i> ) red blood cell
RFLP	restriction fragment length polymorphism
RIA	radioimmunoassay
RKM	( <i>or rkm</i> ) river kilometer ( <i>define point of origin</i> )
RM	river mile
rms	root mean square
RSD	relative stock density
RTH	Rainbow Trout hepatoma (a cell line)
SDA	specific dynamic action (heat loss from digestion [J/{kg × h}])
SDI	shoreline development index
SDS	sodium dodecyl sulfate
SGR	specific growth rate
SH	sulfhydryl
SOPHEIA	solid-phase enzyme immunoassay
sp.	species (singular; plural: spp.)
SPF	specific-pathogen free
S–R	stock–recruitment

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<sup>2</sup> Subscripts denote frequency (e.g.,  $Q_{50}$  = a 50-year flood,  $Q_{2.33}$  = a discharge that occurs every 2.33 years on average.)

SS	sum of squares
SSE	Sockeye Salmon embryo (a cell line)
ssp.	subspecies
SST	sea surface temperature
STE	salt–tris–EDTA
TAC	total allowable catch
TAE	tris–acetate–EDTA (a buffer)
TAN	total ammonia nitrogen
TBE	tris–boric acid (borate)–EDTA (a buffer)
TCID <sub>50</sub>	tissue culture infective dose producing cytopathic effect in 50% of cultures
TDS	total dissolved solids
TE	tris–EDTA (a buffer)
TED	turtle excluder device
TLC	thin-layer chromatography
TSB	trypticase ( <i>or</i> tryptic) soy broth
TYES	trypticase yeast extract agar + skim milk
UILT	upper incipient lethal temperature
UPGMA	unweighted pair-group method with arithmetic averages
VHS(V)	viral hemorrhagic septicemia (virus)
VPA	virtual population analysis
Z	instantaneous total mortality (natural + fishing)

## Appendix C. *Plurals of Fish Names*

The plurals of most fish names are formed by adding the letters *s* or *es* (with stem changes as appropriate) to the singular. In a few cases, however, the plural is the same as the singular or more than one plural is acceptable.

### Names That Change in the Plural<sup>1</sup>

**C.1** Compound names with terminal roots that are common to more than one species usually change in the plural (exceptions are noted):

-back(s) <i>but</i> Quillback	-man (-men)
-blenny (-blennies)	-mouth(s)
-diver(s)	-rag(s)
-eel(s)	-roller(s)
-eye(s)	-side(s)
-fin(s)	-snout(s)
-head(s) <i>but</i> flathead, steelhead, Sheepshead	-sucker(s)
-horse(s)	-tail(s) <i>but</i> Yellowtail
-ing(s) <i>but</i> grayling, herring	-wife (-wives)
-jack(s) <i>but</i> skipjack	

**C.2** The following names (or portions thereof) also change in the plural:

acara(s)	Blacksmith(s)	Chilipepper(s)
agujon(s)	blenny (-ies)	choice(s)
anchoveta(s)	blindcat(s)	chromis(es)
argentine(s)	Bloater(s)	cichlid(s)
aulopus(es)	Bluegill(s)	cisco(es)
Bairdiella(s)	bobo(s)	Cobia(s)
Balao(s)	Bocaccio(s)	cockscorn(s)
Ballyhoo(s)	Boga(s)	codlet(s)
barb(s)	brotula(s)	coney(s)
barbier(s)	bumper(s)	conger(s)
Barbu(s)	Cabazon(s)	corbina(s)
barracudina(s)	cabrilla(s)	corvina(s)
basslet(s)	Capelin(s)	Cottonwick(s)
Beaugregory (-ies)	catalufa(s)	crappie(s)
beauty (-ies)	Chihuila(s)	croaker(s)

ctenopoma(s)  
Cubbyu(s)  
Cui-ui(s)  
Cunner(s)  
dab(s)

daggertooth(s)  
danio(s)  
darter(s)  
Dempsey(s)  
dick(s)

diver(s)  
doctor(s)  
dolphin(s)  
Dory (-ies)  
dragonnet(s)

durgon(s)  
eel(s)  
finspot(s)  
flag(s)  
flier(s)

gag(s)  
gambusia(s)  
gaper(s)  
gar(s)  
Garibaldi(s)

Graysby (-ies)  
grenadier(s)  
Grubby (-ies)  
grunion(s)  
grunt(s)

Guaguanche(s)  
gunnel(s)  
Guppy (-ies)  
halfbeak(s)  
Halfmoon(s)

Hamecon(s)  
hamlet(s)  
High-hat(s)  
Hitch(es)

hogchoker(s)  
Ide(s)  
Inconnu(s)  
jack(s)  
Jambeau(s)

jenny (-ies)  
jumprock(s)  
Kiyi(s)  
lamprey(s)  
lance(s)

leatherjacket(s)  
livebearer(s)  
Liza(s)  
loach(es)  
lookdown(s)

lord(s)  
Louvar(s)  
Machete(s)  
madtom(s)  
major(s)

mako(s)  
manta(s)  
margate(s)  
marlin(s)  
Marlin-spike(s)

medaka(s)  
miller(s)  
minnow(s)  
mobula(s)  
mojarra(s)

molly (-ies)  
moray(s)  
mouthbrooder(s)  
mummichog(s)  
Opah(s)

Oscar(s)  
palometa(s)  
Permit(s)  
pikeconger(s)

pilchard(s)  
Pirambeba(s)  
poacher(s)  
pomfret(s)  
Porbeagle(s)

puffer(s)  
Pumpkinseed(s)  
raven(s)  
ray(s)  
remora(s)

rivulus(es)  
-roller(s)  
ronquil(s)  
rover(s)  
Rudd(s)

runner(s)  
salema(s)  
sanddab(s)  
Sargo(s)  
Sauger(s)

saury (-ies)  
Scamp(s)  
Schoolmaster(s)  
seadevil(s)  
Searcher(s)

searobin(s)  
seasnail(s)  
sennet(s)  
Senorita(s)  
sergeant(s)

shanny (-ies)  
shark(s)  
shiner(s)  
Shulupaoluk(s)  
sierra(s)

siscowet(s)  
sleep(er)s  
smoothhound(s)  
smoothtongues(s)



sole(s)	Tattler(s)	trahira(s)
stargazer(s)	Tautog(s)	Wahoo(s)
stingray(s)	tetra(s)	Wakasagi(s)
Stonecat(s)	thresher(s)	warbonnet(s)
sucker(s)	Timucu(s)	whiff(s)
surgeon(s)	Tomtate(s)	Windowpane(s)
tang(s)	torpedo(es)	wrasse(s)

### Names for Which the Singular and Plural Are the Same

**C.3** The plural is the same as the singular for the following names or terminal roots:

Albacore	Haddock	scad
anchovy	hake	Scup
barracuda	halibut	shad
bass, -bass	herring	skate
bonito	hind	skipjack
bream	Kawakawa	smelt, -smelt
buffalo	mackerel	snapper
Burbot	menhaden	snook
carp	mola	Splake
Cero	mullet	Spot
char	Muskellunge	squeteague
chub	perch, -perch	steelhead
cod, -cod	pickerel	Tarpon
Cusk	pike	Tench
dace	plaice	tiger
escolar	pollack	trout, -trout
Eulachon	pollock	tuna
fish, -fish	pompano	tunny
flathead	porgy	turbot
flounder	pout, -pout	Yellowtail
goby	Quillback	
gourami	roach	
grayling	Saithe	
grouper	salmon, -salmon	
gurnard	sardine	

## Names with More than One Plural

**C.4**      The following seven names have two acceptable plurals:

Dolly Varden	<i>or</i>	Dolly Vardens
drum	<i>or</i>	drums
kokanee	<i>or</i>	kokanees
Ruffe	<i>or</i>	Ruffes
sculpin	<i>or</i>	sculpins
sturgeon	<i>or</i>	sturgeons
tilapia	<i>or</i>	tilapias

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<sup>1</sup> In the lists in this section, only complete common names are capitalized.

## Appendix D. *Geographic and Geological Terms*

The list below shows the treatment of geographic and geological terms that are encountered frequently in AFS publications. For the treatment of other terms, see *Webster's New Geographical Dictionary* or contact the Journals Department.

Alaska Peninsula	Inner Coastal Plain
the Arctic	
Atlantic coast	Laurentian Shield
Atlantic Continental Shelf (Slope)	Lock 19 (Mississippi River)
Atlantic Shelf	lower Colorado River
basin (e.g., Appalachian basin)	
California Current	massif (e.g., Adirondack massif)
Canadian government	mid-Atlantic region
Canadian Shield	Mid-Atlantic Ridge
a coastal plain	Middle Atlantic Bight
a continental shelf (slope)	the Midwest
	Midwestern
Deep South	Mille Lacs
the Delta (Mississippi)	Mississippi Delta
Driftless Area	Mississippi River delta
East Coast	The Netherlands
eastern	North Atlantic
Eastern Shore (Maryland)	north-central
eastern United States ( <i>not</i> the East)	the Northeast
Equatorial Current	northeastern
	northern United States ( <i>not</i> the North)
Fall Line	North Shore (Gulf of St. Lawrence)
fault (e.g., San Andreas fault)	north shore (Lake Superior)
	the Northwest
Glacier (e.g., Columbia Glacier)	northwestern
Grand Bank(s)	
Great Basin	Oregon Coast Range
Great Plains	Outer Coastal Plain
Gulf Coast (as region)	
Gulf Stream	Pacific coast
	the Pacific Northwest
	Philippines ( <i>not</i> the Philippines)
The Hague	the Piedmont
Hawaiian Islands	Pool 12 (Mississippi River)

province of Ontario

Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta  
Sacramento–San Joaquin Estuary  
San Francisco Estuary  
southern United States (*not* the South)  
South Atlantic Bight  
south-central  
the Southeast  
Southeast Alaska  
southeastern  
southern  
Southern California Bight  
the Southwest  
southwestern

state of Washington  
syncline (e.g., Murphy syncline)

upper Mississippi River  
Upper Midwest  
Upper Peninsula (Michigan)  
U.S. Government  
  
Washington State  
West Coast  
West Florida  
western  
western United States (*not* the West)  
Windward Islands

#### NOTE ON GEOLOGICAL TERMS

Formal geological terms are capitalized except for words that are purely descriptive:

Morrison Formation   Laurentian Shield

*but* Ozark uplift   Merrimack River basin

The modifiers accompanying the following terms, which refer to periods, systems, epochs, or series, are all capitalized (e.g., Upper Cambrian, Late Eocene):

Cambrian   Cretaceous   Devonian   Jurassic   Mississippian   Ordovician  
Pennsylvanian   Permian   Silurian   Triassic   Eocene   Miocene   Oligocene  
Paleocene   Pliocene   Precambrian

The names of major divisions, provinces, and sections are also capitalized:

Interior Plains   Great Plains   Missouri Plateau