

## 2024 Estuaries Section Annual Virtual Business Meeting

August 5, 2024 2-2:45 pm EST

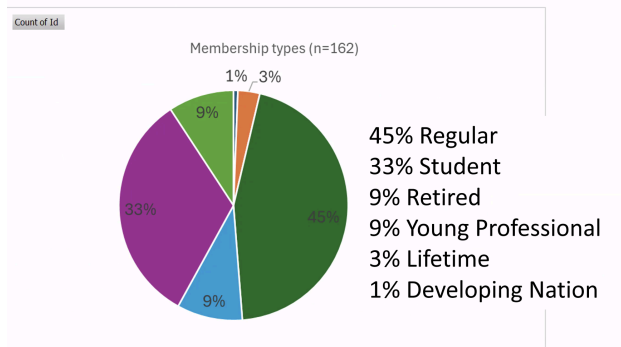
Executive Committee: Justin Stevens, Konstantine Rountos, Amanda Croteau, Lee Benaka, Geoffrey Smith

Total Members Attending: 17

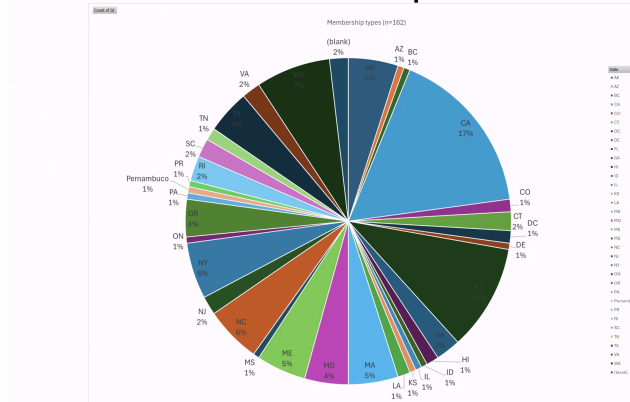
### Intro and Welcome, Justin Stevens

- Quorum established
- Review of the goals and mission statement of the Estuaries Section
- Year in review Section highlights:
  - Newsletters highlighting past and present student travel award winners
  - Organized a sponsored symposia
  - Awarded 2 student travel awards
- Membership overview

### 2024 Estuaries membership



### Estuaries membership



- Estuaries Section Logo Contest
  - Updating logo to incorporate new AFS logo design and encapsulate the mission and goals of our section
  - Winner will receive a code for a free book from AFS bookstore
  - New deadline 9/1/24

**Student travel award winners - Amanda Croteau**

- Awarded 2 travel grants for \$1260
  - This is intended to help cover registration cost for student members, and aid with higher travel costs for this year’s meeting
  - Pay for their student membership dues for the Parent Society (\$30) and Estuaries Section (\$7)
- Undergraduate researcher: Lily DiFrank
  - Stephen F. Austin State University, Texas; Senior working toward a B.S. Biology, expected to graduate in May
  - Working under the supervision of Dr. Carmen Montana in their Aquatic Ecology Lab and will be presenting on their independent research project.
  - Active student member of the Texas Chapter
  - Presenting an oral presentation: “Conservation of Threatened Red River Pupfish (Cyprinodon rubrofluviatilis) in Brazos River, Texas” in the Native and Imperiled Species Management – Session 2 on Thursday 9/19, in Room 308B
- MS student: Blake Munz
  - Working on Marine Biology MS at Texas A&M, Corpus Christi under the supervision of Dr. Benjamin Walther
  - Received BS Marine Science and Biology with a minor in Chemistry from the University of Tampa
  - Active member of the AFS student subunit at Texas A&M
  - Presenting a poster presentation: “Using Fish Scales to Track Atlantic Tarpon Movements” on Monday 9/16, in Exhibit Hall I

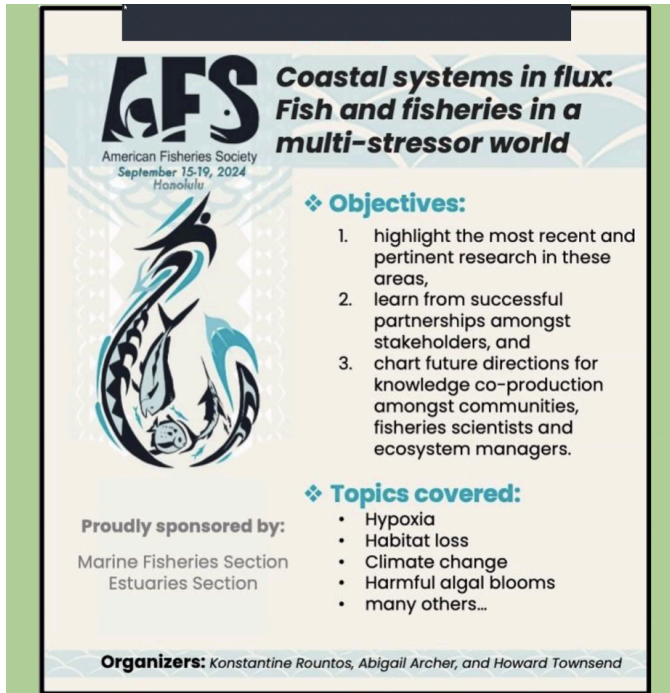
**Treasurer's report, Konstantine Rountos**

<b>Recent transactions:</b>				
Date:	Balance	Credit	Debit	Note:
02/29/2024	4,398.52			Estuaries Section Winter 2024 Newsletter
				Deposit proceeds check (Total = \$900) for “Monsters of Environmental Justice” fund-raising workshop at 153rd Annual Meeting of AFS, Grand Rapids, MI (50% of proceeds for Estuaries Section; 50% for Equal Opportunities Section).
04/26/2024	4,848.52	450.00		
05/08/2024	5,807.52	959.00		Deposit (2023 Section dues)
06/10/2024	5,807.52			Spring Newsletter
06/28/2024	5,557.52		250.00	Donation to Stakeholder’s Reception
08/05/2024	5,557.52			Current balance

- Discussion on membership numbers and efforts to increase participation and membership.

### Honolulu highlight, Konstantine Rountos

- Tuesday, Sept 17th 8-5:30, 308A
- Speaking with Marine and Coastal Fisheries about a special issue from this symposium.



### Open Q&A for executive committee, moderated by Justin Stevens

- Potential for more cross-pollination/collaboration between Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation
  - Next CERF meeting will be in 2025 in Richmond VA
  - Idea potential perhaps organize symposiums at both annual meetings
  - We formally had an liaison member between AFS and CERF
- Other talks to check out
  - Isabella Poster on environmental DNA poster for detection of invasive species
  - Check out the Hawaiian fish pond field trip; native Hawaiiin technique
- Next Monsters idea for 2025 - possible partnership with Cooperative Research Section for a workshop
  - Ideas for Monsters workshop contact Lee Benaka
- Reminder to keep an eye out for Estuaries Section elections next spring
- Next newsletter will out this fall

### 2:45 - Adjourn for transition to Marine Fisheries Section meeting