

Adopted 9/1981

Revised 9/1984

Revised 3/2004

Revised 05/2021

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Article I. Name and Objectives

1. The name of this organization shall be the INVASIVE AND INTRODUCED SPECIES SECTION of the American Fisheries Society, hereinafter referred to as the SECTION and Society, respectively. In this context, the name is taken to include fish, shellfish, crustaceans, and other aquatic organisms regulated by fisheries legislation or affecting the well-being of the fisheries resources. This SECTION was previously known as the Introduced Fish Section, prior to the acceptance of the name change during the 2019 Annual Society meeting, Reno NV.
2. The SECTION is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including for such purposes as the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as tax-exempt organizations described under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
3. In addition to the objectives of the Society as set forth in Article I of the Constitution, the objectives of the SECTION are to:
 - a. Develop and maintain an association of persons interested and involved in the use of invasive and introduced aquatic organisms;
 - b. Coordinate and develop programs to advance the knowledge and concerns related to invasive and introduced species;
 - c. Provide a forum for identifying and bringing attention to bear on the beneficial and potentially harmful impacts of invasive and introduced species;
 - d. Encourage communication among scientists, administrators, managers, educators, aquaculturists, and others interested in invasive and introduced species;
 - e. Assist federal, state, and private groups in making informed decisions on the introduction of aquatic species; and
 - f. Advise private industry in developing procedures for the safe handling of introduced species intended for closed system maintenance and culture.

Article II. Membership

1. Membership in the SECTION shall be open to all members of the Society in good standing and having an interest in Invasive and Introduced species.

2. Only active members of the Society may vote, hold office, or chair a committee.

Article III. Officers

1. The officers of the SECTION shall be the President, President-Elect, immediate Past President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. All officers must be in good standing with the Society.
3. The SECTION Officers shall serve for a period of two years in each office and shall be eligible for re-election to a second consecutive term, provided that the current President is nominated by the nominating committee and re-elected by the membership. If a second term involves the President, then the President, Past-President and President-Elect will all stay in the same office. Terms of newly elected officers shall commence at the Society's annual meeting.
4. The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of President at the expiration of the President's term of office.
5. Officers shall serve without salary or other compensation for their services from the SECTION. Expenses of officers may be defrayed from funds available to the SECTION when authorized by the SECTION Executive Committee.
6. Candidates for office shall be nominated by a Nominating Committee chaired by the immediate Past-President. Voting shall be completed at least one month before the annual meeting of the SECTION. Officers shall be elected by a majority of ballots cast by the SECTION membership. Elections may be conducted electronically or by other methods determined by the Executive Committee.
7. Terms of newly elected officers will begin at the annual SECTION business meeting.
8. In the event of a vacated position, the Executive Committee shall appoint a qualified replacement for the unexpired term.

Article IV. Duties of Officers

1. The President shall:
 - a. Serve as Chair of the Executive Committee of the SECTION;
 - b. Preside at the all meetings of the SECTION;
 - c. Appoint all committees except Membership and Nominating, and may serve as an *ex-officio* committee member;
 - d. Represent the SECTION and perform other duties and functions as authorized and necessary, including representing the SECTION as a member of the Society's Governing Board.
 - e. Perform other duties as may be requested by the Executive Committee.
2. The President-Elect shall
 - a. Serve on the Executive Committee

- b. Perform the duties of the President in the absence of the President;
 - c. Assume the office of the President in the event the office is vacated;
 - d. Accede to the Presidency upon completion of the term of President-Elect;
 - e. Serve as SECTION Membership Committee chairperson; and
 - f. Serve as SECTION newsletter editor in the absence of an appointed Newsletter Editor.
 - g. Serve as chairperson of the SECTION awards committee.
 - h. Shall perform other duties as appropriate and assigned by the Executive Committee.
3. The Secretary shall
- a. Serve on the Executive Committee;
 - b. Keep official records of the SECTION,
 - c. Maintain a current list of SECTION membership;
 - d. Present a semi-annual report to the SECTION Executive Committee;
 - e. Assist the President in preparing the annual report and membership status to the SECTION and Executive Director of the Society within 30 days after the annual meeting of the SECTION or as requested by the Executive Committee.
 - f. Perform other duties as may be required by the Executive Committee.
4. The Treasurer shall:
- a. Collect and be the custodian of SECTION funds;
 - b. Disperse funds as authorized by the Executive Committee;
 - c. Keep an itemized account of all receipts and disbursements;
 - d. Submit a Treasurer's report (income and disbursements) at the annual meeting of the SECTION, to the SECTION and Executive Director of the Society within 30 days after the annual meeting of the SECTION, or as requested by the Executive Committee; and
 - e. File all appropriate tax forms at the end of each calendar year to retain state and federal tax-exempt status (990-n form) of the SECTION.
 - f. Perform other duties as requested by the Executive Committee.
5. The Past-President shall:
- a. Serve as the chairperson of the SECTION Nominating Committee;
 - b. Assist the other officers as needed; and

- c. Perform other duties as assigned by the Executive Committee.
6. Newsletter Editor shall:
 - a. Prepare the SECTION Newsletter;
 - b. Be appointed by the President for renewable terms of one year; and
 - c. Serve as a non-voting member of the SECTION Executive Committee.

Article V. Executive Committee

1. Voting members of the Executive Committee shall consist of the current elected officers and the immediate Past-President of the SECTION. The Newsletter Editor will serve as a non-voting member of the Executive Committee.
2. The Executive Committee shall have authority to determine policies and conduct business consistent with the objectives of the SECTION.
3. Meetings of the Executive Committee may be held at the call of the President when at least a quorum, as defined in Article V (5), can meet and conduct business.
4. Business and voting by the Executive Committee may be conducted by mail, electronic media, or conference call.
5. A quorum is required for transaction of official business at an Executive Committee meeting. A quorum for an Executive Committee meeting shall consist of three of the four members. Executive Committee members can appoint a proxy.
6. Each member of the Executive Committee shall have one vote on Executive Committee decisions. In the event of a tie, the President may cast the deciding vote.
7. The Executive Committee shall establish annual dues subject to the approval of SECTION members voting at the annual meeting.

Article VI. Meetings and Voting

1. The SECTION shall hold at least one business meeting annually at a time and place designated by the Executive Committee. Special meetings may be called by the President with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee.
2. Decisions at SECTION business meetings and on behalf of the Society shall be in accordance with the Society's Constitution, Rules, and Procedures, and the SECTION Bylaws.
3. Each SECTION member is entitled to one vote on all matters requiring the approval of membership.
4. A quorum at business meetings shall be 15 members of the SECTION.
5. Business and voting may be conducted via mail or electronic media, as determined by the Executive Committee.
6. Meetings shall be conducted according to the latest edition of Roberts Rules of Order.

7. Decisions at meetings are by simple majority of Active Members voting, except 2/3 majorities are required in special cases, such as amending the Bylaws and suspending a Rule. Other less frequently used voting requirements are described in Robert's Rules of Order.

Article VII. Bylaws and Rules

1. The Bylaws are the defining document for the SECTION and take precedence over all other rules and procedures of the SECTION. The Bylaws cannot be suspended and cannot be changed without prior notice to members.
 - a. The SECTION Bylaws may be amended by a 2/3 majority of SECTION members voting on the amendment, provided that the proposed amendment(s) are circulated in writing to the membership at least 30 days prior to voting.
 - b. In accordance with the Society Constitution, an amendment shall be reviewed by the Society's Constitutional Consultant prior to the SECTION's vote for conformity with the Constitution, Rules and Procedures of the Society. The Constitutional Consultant presents the adopted amendment to the Society Management Committee for approval.
 - c. Amendments take effect when the SECTION receives written notice of their approval by the Management Committee from the Executive Director.
2. Rules are the next highest level of documentation of SECTION operations. They are generally established to facilitate the conduct of SECTION business and describe duties and responsibilities of officers and committees. They may be suspended or amended as follows:
 - a. The Rules may be suspended during an Executive Committee meeting until the next annual or special SECTION meeting by a 2/3 majority of the Executive Committee.
 - b. The Rules may be suspended for the duration of a meeting by a 2/3 majority of SECTION Members voting at an annual or special SECTION meeting.
 - c. The Rules may be amended by a simple majority of SECTION Members voting at an annual or special SECTION meeting.

Section VIII. Dissolution Clause

1. Upon dissolution or other termination of the SECTION, all remaining assets of the SECTION, after payment in full of all its debts, obligations, and necessary final expenses, or after the making of adequate provision therefore, shall be distributed to the Society.