Unknown artist, Prague, 2011

2012 Annual Meeting
of the IUCN-SSC/Wetlands International
Freshwater Fish Specialist Group

FFSG
Freshwater Fish Specialist Group

Global Challenges in Caring for and Conserving Freshwater Fishes

1–3 May 2012
Chester, UK

Dear Colleague,

The Freshwater Fish Specialist Group (FFSG) of IUCN and Wetlands International warmly invites you participate in the

FFSG 2012 Annual Meeting

to be held on the 2nd and 3rd May 2012 inclusive; with icebreaker on the 1st May. This will be held in Chester, UK in the Crowne Plaza Hotel, close to the town centre. Registration is open and free, subject to space.

The aim of this meeting is to foster the exchange of knowledge and ideas between colleagues interested in freshwater fishes and other freshwater life; and to help develop international strategy and policy; and to support worthwhile practical initiatives in conservation and sustainability world-wide.

The FFSG Symposium will be held just before the 6th World Fisheries Congress, Edinburgh, Scotland which has conservation sections which will also be of interest to FFSG delegates. Therefore, the FFSG dates have been set to allow participants plenty of time to get up to Edinburgh for this Congress.

Main topics

Strategic issues in freshwater and estuarine fish conservation

Chairs: **Gordon McGregor Reid,** FFSG Chair and **Michelle Thieme**, Senior Freshwater Scientist, WWF

Freshwater and estuarine fish survival in the geographical regions

Chairs: **Tony Whitten,** Regional Director for Asia-Pacific, Fauna and Flora International, **Paul Skelton,** Director Emeritus, South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity and **Ian J. Winfield,** President, Fisheries Society of the British Isles

Specialised habitats, specialised fishes and special problems including for cave fishes, live bearers, rapid water, and migratory fishes

Chairs: **Mamaa Entsua-Mensah,** Vice-Director, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, Ghana and **Richard P. Vari,** Curator of Fishes, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, USA

Action for sustainability, The 'Green Fish' Sustainable Fisheries Eco-labelling Initiative

Chairs: **Melanie L. Stiassny,** Curator of Fishes, American Museum of Natural History, New York; **Ian Harrison,** Freshwater Species Assessment Manager, Conservation International

International line-up of Presenters (subject to confirmation) includes:

Claudio R. M. Baigún, Colin Bean, Topiltzin Contreras, David Cooper, Katalin Csatádi, William Darwall, Carlos Fernández Delgado, Roberto Esser dos Reis, Mamaa Entsua-Mensah, Jörg Freyhof, Claudine Gibson, Matthew Gollock, Arkelah Hall, Ian Harrison, Gene Helfman, Zeb Hogan, Aaron Jenkins, John Koehn, Heather Koldewey, Fareed A. Krupp, Mark Lintermans, Jane Madgwick, Gordon McGregor Reid, Richard Mayden, Alec Moore, Matthew Niemiller, Kanako Nishimoto, Thomasina Oldfield, Scott O'Dowd, Graham S. Proudlove, Pete Rand, Rajeev Raghavan, Rachel Roberts, Paul Skelton, Melanie L. Stiassny, Michele Thieme, Michael Tlustly, Nicholas Tubbs, Richard P. Vari, Chavalit Vidthaynon, Tony Whitten, Ian J. Winfield, Shaorong Yang

To register, submit your abstract or poster and book your accommodation, please click this link: **www.freshwaterfishsymposium5.eventbrite.com**

Workshops

Wrestling with eels: establishing a future for the european eel

Led by: **Matthew Gollock,** Assistant Manager - International Marine and Freshwater Conservation Programmes Zoological Society of London

Prospects for establishing a global freshwater fish observatory network

Led by: **Jörg Freyhof,** Senior Researcher, Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries

Mitigating the impact of dams on migratory and other freshwater fish species

Led by: **Gene Helfman,** Professor Emeritus in the University of Georgia, Odum School of Ecology, **Zeb Hogan,** Research Professor, University of Nevada-Reno and **Claudio Baigun,** Professor of Fish Biology, Instituto Tecnologico de Chascomus, Argentina

The Green Fish Initiative

Led by: **David Cooper,** Special Projects Manager, Mahurangi Technical Institute, New Zealand, **Michael Tlusty,** Director of Research, New England Aquarium, **Scott O'Dowd,** Curator, New England Aquarium, **Heather Koldewey**, Head of Global Freshwater and Marine Programmes, Zoological Society of London and **Nicholas Tubbs,** Tropical Forest Conservation Manager, RSPB

Prospects for a Census of Freshwater Life Project

Led by: **Ian Harrison,** Freshwater Species Assessment Manager, Conservation International and **Heather Koldewey,** Head of Global Freshwater and Marine Programmes, Zoological Society of London

About the FFSG

The IUCN-SSC/Wetlands International Freshwater Fish Specialist Group was founded in 2004 to achieve conservation and sustainable use of freshwater fishes and their habitats through:

- generating and disseminating sound scientific knowledge
- creating widespread awareness of their values; and
- influencing decision-making processes at all levels

The group consist of fish and wildlife experts and enthusiasts from all around the world committed to the conservation of freshwater and estuarine fishes. The FFSG chair is **Gordon McGregor Reid,** Director Emeritus, North of England Zoological Society (Chester Zoo) and Professor of Conservation Science, Veterinary School, University of Liverpool. The FFSG Programme Officer and meeting convenor is **Dr Katalin Csatádi.**

We look forward to welcoming you on the 1st May!

In collaboration with:

IUCN — www.iucn.org

SSC Species Survival Commission

WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL — www.wetlands.org

North of England Zoological Society — www.chesterzoo.org