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Editors
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Steven H. Ranney
1546 Tempest Court
#105
Bozeman, MT 59718

Editors –

I am pleased to submit a manuscript titled “Quantile Regression Estimates of Body Weight for Walleye” to the North American Journal of Fisheries Management (NAJFM) for consideration of publication. The manuscript describes the process by which managers can move from using standard weight (W_s) and relative weight (W_r) to compare fish populations. Standard weight and W_r do not provide the basis for statistically rigorous comparisons of body weight in fish populations.

I believe that the topic of this manuscript is of great interest to many of your readers and has implications in addressing fisheries management questions. In addition to the standard components of a NAJFM paper, I have included some supplemental material, available online. One is a Git repository of the code and data used in the manuscript and the other is an application used to explore the distributions of bootstrapped quantile regression slope estimates. The former is for reproducibility purposes and the latter is to support one of my discussion points. Though neither piece of included supplemental material is integral to the paper, I offer them so that reviewers and readers can explore the data, the conclusions, and non-normality of bootstrapped slopes for themselves.

Please note that I am an independent researcher and no funding was provided for the work contained in this manuscript. As a result, if this manuscript is eventually accepted for publication, I will be requesting a waiver of the page charges. I am a member of AFS.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Steven H. Ranney
Steven.Ranney@gmail.com