

Ralph Abele Papers

Summary Finding Aid

FF denotes File Folder

Box 1 – Bell/Holmes Study- 1960; SRAFC

FF1 – SRAFC (Susquehanna River Anadromous Fish Restoration Committee), 1981 - Correspondence, information, newspaper articles, and related material on activities of SRAFC. Copy of report “Conowingo Dam Fish Collection Facility Operation, April through May, 1972.”

FF2 - SRAFC, 1982 - Correspondence, information, newspaper articles, and related material on activities of SRAFC. Information on reorganization of Committee. Copy of “Tidewater Fisheries Analysis of American Shad Fisheries in Maryland Waters.”

FF3 – SRAFC, 1980 - Correspondence, information, newspaper articles, and related material on activities of SRAFC. FERC order for issuing license to PECO and Susquehanna Power Company for Conowingo Dam. Copy of reports “Susquehanna River Fish Kill of July 8, 1980” by Maryland Department of Natural Resources and “Progress Report on American Shad Investigation Conducted at Lamar Fish Cultural Development Center, 1977-79. Information on Susquehanna River Basin Commission’s views on relicensing of Safe Harbor hydroelectric project

FF4 – SRAFC, 1981 – Voluminous correspondence, information, newspaper articles, and related material on activities of SRAFC. Copy of report “Summary of the Conowingo Dam Fish Collection Facility During Spring, 1979” and 1979 SRAFC Operations Plan and 1980 Annual Work Plan. Copy of “Report of the State Commissioners of Fisheries, 1892-1894.”

FF5 – SRAFC, 1980 (second file) - Voluminous correspondence, information, newspaper articles, and related material on activities of SRAFC. Copy of report “An Economic Evaluation of potential Benefits to the Susquehanna River Basing Through Restoration of Diadromous Fisheries” by Fish Commission staff, 1980. Copy of report “Study Plan for Safe Harbor Hydroelectric Project #1025” by Roy F. Weston for Safe Harbor Power Corp. Copy of Susquehanna River Basin Commission’s study “Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature Study of Lower Susquehanna River, August, 9 and 10, 1979.”

Box 2 – Executive Director

FF1 – Susquehanna Survey – Various reports by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers such as ‘Fish Passageways at Cushman #2 Hydro-Electric Plant and ‘Fish Passage Through Turbines,’ early 1960s. Photos of various dams across state featuring fish passageways.

FF2 – Susquehanna Survey – Early 1960s information and correspondence on Shad surveys and restoration along Susquehanna. Correspondence to/from other state and federal agencies on subject.

Information on fish passageways at Holtwood and Conowingo dams. Financial estimates of 'Total Cost of Combining Fish Passage Facilities' at Holtwood and Conowingo dams.

FF3 – SRAFCR, 1986 – Voluminous correspondence and information on Chesapeake Bay Foundation efforts to clean-up bay. Correspondence between PA and Maryland agencies on issue. Various information on Shad restoration along Susquehanna. Information, meeting agendas and minutes of SRAFCR meetings. Newspaper articles on Shad restoration issues.

FF4 – SRAFCR, 1986 (continued from FF4) – Voluminous correspondence and information on Shad restoration issues. Copy of 1986 annual work plan of SRAFCR and meeting agendas and minutes. Copy of "Susquehanna River Settlement Agreement: Holtwood Hydroelectric Stations" between PP&L and Fish Commission. Copy of "Plan to Assess and Improve Downstream Migration of Juvenile American Shad in Susquehanna River" by SRAFCR, 1985. Copies of legal briefs by PECO on Conowingo passageway issues.

FF5 – SRAFCR, 1985 – Voluminous correspondence and information on work of SRAFCR. Copy of multi-agency settlement agreement with PP&L and Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. and York Haven Power Company on construction of fish passageways and other remedial actions to restore Shad. Copies of SRAFCR progress reports. Information on efforts of other states to restore Shad, such as Connecticut and New York. Copy of "Susquehanna River Anadromous Fish Restoration Committee Proposed Study Plan for Juvenile Shad Outmigration Assessment," June, 1984.

FF6 – SRAFCR, 1983 – Correspondence, reports and information related to Shad restoration. Copy of 'Restoration of American Shad to the Susquehanna River – Annual Progress Report, 1983' by SRAFCR.

FF7 – SRAFCR, 1981 – Copy of 1981 settlement agreement between PP&L, Fish Commission and Susquehanna River Basin Commission on fish passageways and minimum flow at Holtwood and Safe Harbor dams. Correspondence between Fish Commission officials and various interest groups on work of SRAFCR. Copy of 'Susquehanna River Anadromous Fish Restoration Cooperative Agreement and Work Plan, 1981' by SRAFCR.

Also in box is unfiled copy of "The Susquehanna Fishing Study, 1957-1960: A Report of a Study on the Desirability and Feasibility of Passing Fish at Conowingo dam" by Maryland Dept. of Research and Education and Susquehanna Electric Company. And, copy of 1985 'American Shad Hatchery Operations' by Fish Commission.

Box 3 – Executive Director

FF1 – DER 1980 – Memo of Understanding between DER and Fish Commission relating to enforcement of surface coal mining under provisions of federal Surface Mining Control Act of 1877. Correspondence relating to subject. Press releases on DER and EPA efforts to impose fines on coal companies not in compliance with federal requirements. Copy of report from U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, "National Site Classification System.

FF2 – DER 1981 – Correspondence between DER Secretary Pete Duncan and Abele on various issues such as 1980 MOU, monitoring of West Creek Mining Company's activities on Patterson Creek,

Armstrong County. Copy of EQB Environmental Master Plan, 1981. Correspondence between DER and Commission on water quality issues relating to gas and oil drilling and brine water discharges into streams.

FF3 – DER MOU's – MOU's between DER and Commission on protection of several conservation districts.

FF4 – DER 1982 – Correspondence between Abele and DER staff on various water quality issues (example: Loyalsock Creek, Sullivan County) and over concern of public discharging of swimming pool water into PA streams. Copy of DER Title 25, Chapter 193 regulating public bathing places. Information and correspondence between Abele and DER officials on 'Small Operators' Assistance Program' where Commission is provided with federal funding to review coal mining operations. Copies of Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, 1980, as amended, and Bituminous Mine Subsidence and Land Conservation Act, 1981.

FF5 – DER 1983 – Voluminous correspondence and information between Commission and DER staff on water quality issues, Gypsy moth assessments and mitigation, information and meeting minutes from interagency coal mining advisory committee. Copies of reports such as "Assessment of Agricultural Source Pollution in Selected High Priority Watersheds in Pennsylvania and "Regulation and Operating Planes Relating to the Restoration, Maintenance, and/or Improvement of Water Quality and Fisheries on State Forest Lands. Press statement by Maurice Goddard on Gov. Thornburgh's 'mishandling' of staff changes and in DER leadership in which Goddard claims a politically motivated 'purge.'

FF6 – DER 1984 – Voluminous correspondence between Abele and DER staff on numerous issues such as fish passageways at dams, erosion and sediment control and impact on fisheries, coal mining operations, permitting issues. Newspaper articles on various coal mining regulatory issues. Notice and copy of proposed rulemaking before IRRC on water quality standards. Report on Heritage Park proposals in PA.

FF7- DER 1985 – Information and editorial on Thornburgh's cutbacks in state government agencies. Voluminous correspondence between Abele and DER staff on numerous issues such as water quality, wetland protection, discharging of salt water brine from gas well sites, sewage treatment, mining operations, and other environmental issues. Copy of DER reports "Assessment and Issues for PA Forest Resources" and "Water Quality Standards Review Issues" and copy of "Sand and Gravel Agreement between DER and Erie Sand Steamship Co.

FF8 – DER 1986 – Voluminous correspondence and information between DER staff and Abele on numerous issues such as those cited in FF7 with the addition of PA Conservation Corps projects, fish tissue contaminants, and coal mining and water quality at Harmar Mine Complex in Allegheny County and Ernst Mining Complex in Indiana County. Copy of DER "Forest Resource Plan, 1986" and Abele response to it especially on issue of Acid Rain. Copy of 1986-1990 PA Recreation Plan.

Box 4 - Unlabeled

FF1 – Three Mile Island – Correspondence, newspaper articles, daily ‘situation reports’ from PEMA, various information from state and federal agencies, members of Congress, and the Pennsylvania legislature on nuclear accident at TMI, 1979. Information and correspondence on release of decontaminated water into Susquehanna River in 1981-82. Correspondence in which Abele expresses policy of F & B Commission that it is not opposed to release of water so long as federal and state standards are met. File also contains pre-1979 information on TMI construction and environmental impact studies. Photo of fisherman with TMI cooling towers in background.

FF2 – FERC Testimony – Abele testimony before FERC, 1981, on why fish passageways are necessary along the Susquehanna River. General information on fish passageways along Susquehanna.

FF3 – FERC – Information and correspondence between FERC and F & B Commission on fish passageways along Susquehanna. Legal petitions to intervene in Safe Harbor Water Power Corp. filing for amendment to licenses from FERC. Orders by FERC to various power companies to allow for fish passageways along Susquehanna. Information on Conowingo Fish Collection Facility including architectural drawings, maps, and reports.

Box 5 – Unlabeled (as are some file folders)

Unfiled material and correspondence between Philadelphia Electric Company, Fish Commission, and Susquehanna River Basin Commission on FERC licensing of Conowingo Dam, 1981.

FF1 – U.S. Steel Project – Interagency correspondence on permitting by DER of U.S. Steel mill discharges for proposed steel mill at Conneaut. Information from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on permitting of U.S. Steel Mill. Correspondence from National Wildlife Federation and other advocacy groups on subject. EPA meeting minutes, April, 1977, on subject.

FF2 – Correspondence, reports and related information on regulatory relief efforts by Reagan Administration Committee on Regulatory Reform specifically regarding amendments to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Section 10/404 permitting program (relating to dredge and fill activities under the Clean Water Act.. Correspondence from regional and national environmental groups in opposition to proposed regulatory relief. Correspondence to Vice President George H.W. Bush from Abele in opposition to proposed regulatory relief.

FF3 – 404 – Correspondence from various state agencies including agencies from Maryland and New York on proposed regulatory relief, Section 10/404. Information on DER efforts to protect wetlands, 1988.

FF4 – 404 Permitting – Correspondence between and among multi-state agencies on proposed regulatory relief from Section 404 of Clean Water Act, including letter from Senator John Heinz to Abele assuring Abele of his opposition to amendments to the Clean Water Act. Correspondence from Abele to Pennsylvania Congressional delegation expressing opposition to regulatory relief. Copy of “Complaint for

Declaratory and Injunctive Relief” filed in U.S. District Court for Washington, D.C. by various national and regional advocacy groups relating to regulatory relief.

FF5 – Clean Water Act, Section 404 – Correspondence, information, newspaper articles and related information on Reagan Administration proposed regulatory relief from Section 404.

Box 6 – Coal Mining Regulations; Lake Erie Regulations and, Budget, 90-91

FF1 – Coal Mining Regulations – Voluminous information relating to PA coal mining regulations. Copies of lawsuit and preliminary objections filed by Pennsylvania Coal Association against DER regulations on mine drainage, 1990. Copies of “Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation Act of 1945, as amended.” Copies of various reports and technical studies on areas deemed unsuitable for mining. Minutes of EQB meetings in 1988. Copies of DER regulations covering surface and subsurface mining and proposed amendments to such regulations. Handwritten notes on subject by Fish Commission staff.

FF2 – Budget/Fiscal 1987-88 – 1987-88 year-end budget reports and operating cost summaries. Report on “Analysis of Fiscal Condition of Fish Fund and Boat Fund” submitted to Abele by internal Budget Review and Financial Planning Committee. Copy of report “PA Fish Commission: Past, Present and Future,” 1987. Copy of Commission report “Funding Needs and Legislative Priorities 1998 and Beyond” and “ Title 30 – Fish and Boat Code.” Copies of proposed legislative amendments to Title 30, 1988.

FF3 – Lake Erie Regulations – Copies of public testimony and official transcript at Commission hearing on proposed 1982 regulations governing fishing activities on Lake Erie. Copy of proposed regulations, 1984 governing “Suspension, Denial or Revocation of Fishing Licenses.” Agenda and meeting minutes from “FUTURE” task force meetings, early-mid 1980s.

FF4 – Lake Erie Regulations – Voluminous correspondence and information relating to permits issued for experimental fishing for white bass, 1982. Copies of Commission notices on limits for various fish catches on Lake Erie. Proposed changes to regulations governing Lake Erie commercial fishing activities. Copy of report “Summary of Commercial Fisheries Catches on Lake Erie,” 1980. Various internal memos and staff handwritten notes on subject. Correspondence to/from legislators on subject. Transcript from public hearing on proposed regulations, 1981 (as in FF3). Internal correspondence on 1978 fee increases for commercial fishing licenses. Copy of “Fish and Boat Fund Balance Sheet and Related Financial Statements,” June, 1981.

Box 7 – Executive Director

FF1 – Luzerne Coal – Report on application for mine drainage permit for Luzerne Coal, Cumberland Twp. Greene County.

FF2 – Low Flow – Correspondence between Abele and DER and Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources on low flow issues at Conowingo dam.

FF3 – License Questionnaire – 1975 report on angler survey or “Fisherman Preference Survey.”

FF4 – Leetsdale Access, Allegheny County – Information on construction of access area on Ohio River.

FF5 – Jacobsburg State Park Lake – Correspondence, information and maps relating to Jacobsburg State Park Dam, Northampton County.

FF6 – Ingram Springs, Bucks County – Information on project 70 acquisition of Ingram Springs.

FF7 – Inventory and Classification – Report “Inventory and Classification of Stocked Trout Streams in Pennsylvania” 1980. Public correspondence on topic.

FF8 – Huntsdale State Forest Hatchery, Cumberland County – Information on “Construction and Replacement of Trout Production Units” at hatchery, 1971. Various information on hatchery including maps and General State Authority documents.

FF9 – Hurgya, John – Information on Commissioner Hurgya, 4th district including various correspondence between Hurgya and Abele.

FF10 – Hankins Pond, Wayne County – Correspondence and information on acquisition of Hankins Pond.

FF11- Harman Creek, Washington County – Copy of “Watershed Workplan, No. 1” early 1970s. Correspondence between West Virginia environmental agency and Fish Commission on issues relating to subject. Information from Washington County Planning Commission on subject.

FF12 – Harris Pond, Luzerne County – Various information from 1967 through 1979 on acquisition and maintenance of pond.

FF13 – Hammermill Landfill, Erie County – Public correspondence in opposition to Hammermill Landfill.

FF14 – Hammermill Paper – Correspondence and information on permitting of Hammermill plant in Lock Haven, and disposition on fly ash and impact on wetlands.

FF15 – Lake Erie Offshore Drilling - Voluminous correspondence and information relating to subject. 1969 study by Ontario Petroleum Institute, “Potential Oil Pollution from Gas and Oil Well Activities in Lake Erie” by International Lake Erie Water Pollution Board. Other related reports. Draft of oil and gas lease on Lake Erie by Dept. of Forests and Waters. Public and legislative correspondence in opposition to drilling.

FF16 – Kimmets Lock Project, Lehigh County – Copy of executed Application and Permit for project.

FF17 – Kiskiminetas River – Correspondence and information on river water quality, mostly from 1960s.

FF18 – Jacobs Creek Watershed – Correspondence and information on watershed, especially its protection from mining operations. Copy of report, “Workplan for Jacobs Creek Watershed” by Fayette and Westmoreland County governments.

FF19 – Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area – Correspondence between Abele and federal and state officials on “Master Plan for Delaware Watergap National Recreation Area.”

FF20 – Delaware River Policy Committee – Meeting minutes of Policy Committee and subcommittees of which Abele and Fish Commission staff were a part. Copy of “Proposal for Delaware River Fisheries Management Cooperative.”

Box 8 – Unlabeled

FF1 – Personnel Committee – Various information, internal correspondence to/from job applicants, and promotion and reassignment activities from Commission internal personnel committee.

FF2 – Curwensville Reservoir – Correspondence from Abele to sportsmen’s clubs and DER on stocking of reservoir.

FF3 – Damascus – Information on Project 70 acquisition of Damascus Access Area, Wayne County.

FF4 – Conservation Award – Information on Commission Conservation Award, 1975.

FF5 – Committees within Commission – information on staff assignments to various internal committees on budget, personnel, legislation, access and property maintenance and reports to Abele on committee activities.

FF6 – Cloe and Kyle Reservoir – Information on Project 70 public access to fishing site on reservoir in Jefferson County.

FF7 – City of Monongahela - information on construction of boat launch facility on the Mon River, Washington County.

FF8 – Camp Blue Jay - Information on Commission interest in acquiring camp located in Forest County.

FF9 – Cornell, Bryce – Information on grievances and civil action by Waterways Patrolman Bryce on issues relating to promotion and reassignment.

FF10- Buffalo Township – Information on Project 70 Commission acquisition of 4 acres of land at Montgomery Ferry, Perry County.

FF11 – Dunlap Creek – Information on Project 70 acquisition of Dunlap Creek Watershed.

FF12 – Chester Municipal Authority – Correspondence, information, and newspaper articles on operation and maintenance of Strable Lake, Chester County.

FF13 – EPA (misabeled?) – Correspondence, information, newspaper articles, budget reports, and annual reports regarding Chesapeake Bay Agreement.

FF14 – Donegal Lake – internal information on leasing of dwelling at Donegal Lake, Westmoreland County.

FF15 – E. Bangor Dam – Correspondence, information and photos relating to East Bangor Dam and lake, especially on concerns over water quality. Information on public meeting on subject and on physical improvements.

FF16 – Great Lakes Fishery Commission - Information on Great Lakes Fishery Commission including meeting minutes, committee reports, various other reports such as “Water Level Changes” and “Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement between U.S. and Canada, 1978.”

FF17- Lake Erie Commercial and Sport Fishing – Correspondence (especially from public and advocacy groups to Abele), meeting minutes, newspaper articles, reports, and related information on Committee on subject.

Box 9 - Unlabeled

FF1 – Endangered Species, 1973-75 – Correspondence with state and federal agencies, information and reports on endangered species in Pennsylvania waterways. Correspondence and information relating to Endangered Species Act of 1973 and federal grants-in-aid to Pennsylvania for endangered species protection.

FF2 – Presidential Fishing Trip, 1978 – Information, correspondence, newspaper articles and photos relating to President Carter’s fly fishing trip to Pennsylvania in 1978.

FF3 – Gibbs, Walter – Correspondence between Commission Gibbs and Abele on various subjects such as fish stocking and on legal and regulatory matters.

FF4 – Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp. – Information and correspondence on early 1980s consent order and agreement on J& L to mitigate water pollution at Aliquippa and Pittsburgh facilities. Information on penalties assessed by Commonwealth on J & L.

FF5 – Juniata River – Water quality surveys and information on Juniata River seminar and ‘float’ in November 1982.

FF6 - Project FUTURE – Meeting agendas and minutes, reports, correspondence, and other material relating to Project FUTURE. Correspondence from public on project FUTURE. Copies of special regulatory proposals for Fly Fishing, Catch and Release, and Limestone Springs Wild Trout Program.

FF8 – Project FUTURE – Additional information on project FUTURE including committee reports and meeting minutes, and letter from Abele explaining project to members of the General Assembly. Report on Management of Trout Fisheries in PA Waters by F & B Commission, 1986. Information on ‘electro-shocking’ of streams to enhance counts of various fish species.

Box 10 - Unlabeled (most information in box is Pre-Abele)

FF1 – Project 70 – Information and agreement on French Creek Access Area, Crawford County.

FF2 – Project 70 – Information on access to west bank of Allegheny River in Venango County.

FF3 – Project 70 – Information and agreement on acquisition of Ford’s Lake, Lackawanna County.

FF4 – Project 70 – Chronological report, correspondence, and information on acquisition of Four Mile Run in Westmoreland County.

FF5 – FERC/PENELEC – Information and correspondence on FERC licensing of PENELEC facilities in Commonwealth.

FF6 – Raystown – Information on construction of Raystown Lake and Commission fish stocking activities, early 1970s.

FF7 – Warrior Ridge Dam – Correspondence and information on Warrior Ridge Dam along Juniata and impact on fish species.

FF8 – Raystown – Correspondence, information and orders from FERC on Raystown hydroelectric project.

FF9 – Oakland Hydroelectric Dam – Correspondence and information on PA Electric Company’s abandonment of Oakland Hydroelectric Station on Susquehanna River, Susquehanna County.

FF10 – Newbold Island – Correspondence with Atomic Energy Commission and information on construction of Newbold Island Nuclear Generation Station in Salem, N.J. and Limerick facility in Pottstown.

FF11 – Limerick – Newspaper articles, internal Fish Commission correspondence and with Atomic Energy Commission, and information on Limerick Nuclear Generating Station.

FF12 – Berwick Project – Correspondence with state and federal agencies on construction of Susquehanna Steam Electric Station along Susquehanna River, Luzerne County.

FF13 – Peach Bottom – Copy of letter and report of Ichthyological Association on fish species near Peach Bottom, York County.

FF14 – Proposed Natural Gas Installation - Correspondence between Abele and Federal Power Commission on Consolidated Gas Company’s proposed natural gas pipeline from Louden County, Virginia, to Clinton County, PA.

FF 15 – Allegheny River Reservoir – Correspondence, information, reports, and meeting minutes on Federal Power Commission’s licensing on PA Electric Company’s Allegheny Dam. Allegheny River, Warren County.

FF16 – Muddy Run – Correspondence, reports, meeting minutes of advisory group, and related material on Phila. Electric Company’s Muddy Run pumped storage projects.

FF17 – Lake Wallenpaupack – Correspondence, reports, and related information on Wallenpaupack Hydroelectric Station in the Pocono region.

FF18 – Mountain Springs – Information on federal financial aid relating to Commission’s work at Mountain Springs, Luzerne County.

FF19 – Clarion River – Correspondence and information on Piney Hydroelectric Station, Clarion River, Clarion County.

FF20 – Peach Bottom – Voluminous correspondence between state and federal agencies and legal documents relating to construction and operation of Peach Bottom. Also includes maps and FERC orders requiring construction of fish passageways.

Box 11 - Unlabeled

FF 1 – Fly Fishing Areas - Various correspondence on fly fishing issues, information on ‘Fly Fish Only’ designated areas and pros and cons of such areas.

FF2 – Flood Restoration Post Agnes Disaster, 1972 – Enforcement of cease and desist orders for waterway obstructions; various inter-agency correspondence on post-Agnes recovery especially with DER; booklet, “Guidelines for Stream Restoration Following Flood Emergencies”; correspondence on emergency flood clean-up programs without permit issuance by DER.

FF3 – Fish for Fun- Correspondence and information on “Fish for Fun” program.

FF4 – Fish Diseases – Correspondence with state and federal agencies on fish diseases; letters to members of U.S. Congress on fish diseases in support of federal legislation to prevent such diseases; report of National Fish Disease Workshop, August 14-18, 1972.

FF5 – First Fork of Sinnemahoning Creek, Potter County – Designation of First Fork Branch of Creek as a high pressure area not supported by Abele; correspondence with Dept. of Highways on nearby road construction; pre-Abele information on same subject.

FF6 – Proposed Revisions to Fish Laws, 1974 – Correspondence regarding proposed revisions to fish code between Abele, legislators, internal staff, and interest groups; correspondence regarding enforcement of proposed code; information on 1981 legislation to create Fish and Boat Code, Title 30, Pa. C.S. H.B. 1574.

FF7 – Linesville State Fish Hatchery – Interagency correspondence on Linesville State Fish Hatchery; numerous photos of construction of Hatch House at Linesville.

FF8 – Little Schuylkill River Watershed – Correspondence and information indicating that watershed was originally proposed in 1958 with most improvements complete by 1974; similar correspondence with U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service. Most information pre-dates Abele.

FF9 – Pennypack Creek – Information on stocking of Pennypack Creek in 1983; correspondence related to pollution in Pennypack Creek.

FF10 – Perkiomen Creek, 1966-67 – Report “Biological Survey of Perkiomen Creek” by Institute of Research at Lehigh University.

FF11 – Little Loyalsock Creek – Correspondence regarding enforcement issues along creek; correspondence on various issues affecting creek, 1965-66, pre-Abele.

FF12 – Little Sandy Creek, 1964-66 – Correspondence on plans for Little Sandy Creek Watershed pursuant to Project 70.

Box 12 - Unlabeled

FF1 – H.B. 1713 - Information on 1981-82 legislation H.B. 1713 to offer free licenses to Veterans, increase resident fishing fees, and create a salmon stamp; letters to legislators regarding H.B. 1713; information from various state agencies on H.B. 1713; information on financial status of Fish Commission; information from other states on license fees; correspondence and information on “Mellow Amendment” to H.B. 1713 that would politicize appointments to Fish Commission including executive director.

FF2 – Pesticides – Correspondence, information and press releases on PCBs, contaminants, and pollution in fisheries, creeks, streams, and lakes; reports on PCBs by DER; related newspaper clippings; correspondence with Maurice Goddard and Ralph Abele on subject; information on Gypsy Moth infestation.

FF3- Pesticides, Pre-Abele- Information on development of pesticide regulations in 1960s; federal hearings before Senator Hugh Scott; correspondence with Dept. of Highways on spraying of pesticides; information from other states on pesticide use and results such as Michigan, New York, and Wisconsin; report of ‘Special Senate Committee to Study the Use of Pesticides in PA,’ 1969.

FF4- PIER Program/PSU – 1984/85 ‘Public Involvement and Education on Radiation’ program in collaboration with PSU and state agencies; Appalachian States Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact signed by Gov. Thornburgh 12/85; TMI information; study in issue by State House of Reps; similar studies from other states.

FF5 – Marsh Creek Watershed – 1968/71 pre-Abele information; acquisition of watershed via Project 70; workplan for Marsh Creek Watershed.

FF6 – Salmon Carcasses – Correspondence on providing salmon to Erie area food bank, Dept. of Veterans Affairs, and various schools for biological dissection,

Box 13 - Unlabeled (most files relate to access areas)

FF1 – Marsh Creek - Miscellaneous information on Marsh Creek access areas.

FF2 – Schrader Creek – Miscellaneous information on fly fishing on creek.

FF3 – Roaring Run – Pre-Abele, information on construction of dam on Roaring Creek, Somerset County.

FF4 – Martin's Creek – Information on public access to creek in Northampton County; correspondence on pollution of Martin's creek.

FF5 – Commissioner Robert L. Martin – Correspondence and information on Commissioner Martin including letter of resignation.

FF6 – Stream Improvement – Correspondence, internal memoranda, and related information on stream improvement issues.

FF7 – Tidioute Access Area – Correspondence, internal memoranda, and related information on Tidioute Access Area.

FF8 – Sylvan Lake – Land acquisition information on Sylvan Lake, Luzerne County. Most information is pre-Abele.

FF9 - Sweet Arrow Lake – Land acquisition information on Sweet Arrow Lake, Schuylkill County. Most information is pre-Abele.

FF10 – Susquehanna Fishery Investigation – Biological studies of Susquehanna River; selected correspondence, all pre-Abele.

FF11 – Mauch Chunk Creek Watershed – Correspondence on issues relating to acquisition and maintenance of this watershed in Schuylkill and Carbon Counties; Supplement Watershed Workplan Agreement copy; most information is pre-Abele.

FF12 – McKeesport Access – Correspondence and information on issues relating to access to Monongahela and Youghigeny Rivers via McKeesport; some information is pre-Abele.

FF13 – Memo of Understanding - Between Dept. of Highways, Game and Fish Commissions, 1968; pre-Abele.

FF14 - Memo of Understanding – On channel changes between Dept. of Highways, Game and Fish Commissions, 1963-64, pre-Abele.

FF15 – Memo of Understanding – Between Elk County Soil and Water Conservation District, State Soil and Water Conservation Commission, and Fish Commission.

FF16 – Middle Creek – Correspondence regarding Middle Creek Supplemental Watershed Workplan Agreement, Snyder County; Agreement included.

FF17 – Martin's Creek – Correspondence and information on Martin's Creek, East Branch, Northampton County.

FF18 – Martin's Creek – Correspondence and information on Martin's Creek Dam Site.

FF19 – Martin's Creek – Information relating to Martin's Creek Watershed.

FF20 – Young Adult Conservation Corps. – Correspondence and information relating to this program.

FF21 – Zane Grey Inn – Correspondence regarding acquisition of Zane Grey Inn, Pike County, pre-Abele. Includes correspondence with Historical and Museum Commission on historical significance of Zane Grey Inn.

FF22 – Susquehanna River Access, Woodward Twp. Lycoming County – Correspondence and memoranda regarding acquisition/access to 6 acres of land adjacent to Susquehanna in Lycoming County, pre-Abele.

FF23 – Sunshine Law – Information and memoranda on Pennsylvania’s “Sunshine Law” of 1974.

Box 14 - Unlabeled

FF1 – Penn Central Railroad, Enola – Correspondence and information on oil pollution on Susquehanna River at Enola.

FF2 – Wilts Track – Information on acquisition of Wilts Track of land, Penns Creek; correspondence with Maurice Goddard on the subject.

FF3 – 1986 Commission Camera Inventory – Related internal survey and report.

FF4 – PG & W – Agreement with PG & W to permit panfish salvage on a trial basis on bodies of water owned by PG & W.

FF5 – PA Oil and Gas Association – Remarks/speech by Abele to association seminar, 9/15/82; miscellaneous correspondence between Abele and officials of Association.

FF6 – Susquehanna Fishery Investigation – Early to mid-1960s information on investigation; see FF 10, Box 6 and Box 13, FF10.

FF7 – Headquarters Construction – Correspondence and building plans for construction of Fish and Game Commission headquarters on Elmerton Avenue, 1970s.

FF8 – Mill Run Watershed – Correspondence and information on issues of acquisition of and access to Tamarack Lake, Fayette County, most pre-Abele.

FF9 – Mill Creek Watershed – 1959-1967 information on this watershed; Workplan for watershed; various correspondence on watershed issues, pre-Abele.

FF10 – Mill Run Watershed – Limited information on watershed, pre-Abele.

FF11 – Mill Creek, Clarion – Correspondence on excessive silt load on Mill Creek due to coal mining activity and on issue of dam construction on Mill Creek (1968).

FF12 – Mill Creek, Lippincott, Lycoming County – Correspondence on development of Mill Creek Lake site, most pre-Abele.

FF13- Surveys, Streams and Lakes – Correspondence and internal memoranda on surveys of streams and lakes in Pennsylvania; survey schedules, 1980s.

FF14 – Not Labeled - Correspondence and reports on pollution in Spring Creek, Centre County.

Box 15 - Unlabeled

Unfiled bound copy of Minutes of Fish Commission Meetings, January 1968 to September, 1970.

FF1 – Heritage Recreation – Correspondence and agreements with Heritage Recreation and Conservation Service.

FF2 – Great Lakes Winter Navigation – Commission correspondence in opposition to increased winter navigation and shipping on Great Lakes.

FF3- Penn's Creek – Information on Fingerling stocking; Penn's Creek watershed issues; correspondence in opposition to "Fish for Fun" on Penn's Creek; information on Commission acquisition of land along Penn's Creek.

FF4 – PA League of Angling Youth – Copies of Young Anglers News; information and correspondence on program.

FF5 – Mountain Creek Watershed – Correspondence on various issues relating to watershed in Cumberland County.

FF6 – Neshannock Creek – Information on acquisition of land along creek in Lawrence County in August 1971; correspondence on stocking creek.

FF7 – National Fish Hatchery – Correspondence with federal and state officials on creation of National Fish Hatchery in Northeastern, PA in 1974.

FF8 – North Fork, Red Bank Creek – Correspondence and internal memoranda on poor water quality along creek resulting from mine drainage in Jefferson County.

FF9 - Fred Johnson – Correspondence to, from and about Fred Johnson, Water Resource Coordinator. And, report "Angling and Boating use and Angler Harvest of Lake Erie and Presque Isle Bay.

Box 23- Unlabeled (all is post-Abele)

FF1 – Information on Environmental Quality Board (EQB) meeting, 10/17/89.

FF2 – Information on EQB meeting, 11/21/89, especially on amendments to PA coal mining regulations.

FF3 – Information on EQB meeting, 12/19/89, especially on DER protection of wetlands and proposed regulation "Pollution Control and Prevention from Agricultural Operations."

FF4 – Information on EQB public hearing on revisions to coal mining regulations.

FF5 – Information on EQB meeting, 5/16/89, including information on proposed DER regulations on “Air Pollution Episodes.”

FF6 – Information on EQB meeting, 7/18/89.

FF7 – Information on EQB meeting, 2/21/89.

FF8 – Information on EQB meeting, 2/14/89.

Box 24 - Unlabeled

FF1 - WCO Claude Neifert – Investigation of Neifert for potential misconduct, 1988.

FF2 – Species of Special Concern – Correspondence on species of special concern and copy of booklet “Species of Special Concern, 1985.”

FF 3 – Henderson Group – Copy of report “The Hotel at the Airport Business Center” about a hotel to be built along the Delaware River, Tinicum Twp. Fish Commission raises concerns that infill of river will create problems for fish species. Post-Abele, 1988.

FF4 – DER 1988 – Correspondence between DER and Fish Commission officials on damming streams on Pine Creek at Cammel in Northern Tier. Fish Commission opposes due to potential impact on trout fishing. Post- Abele.

FF5- DER 1989 – Correspondence between DER and Fish Commission officials regard Buck Mountain Creek, Rosetown Creek, Laughlintown Run, and Mill Creek. Other selected correspondence. Post-Abele.

FF6- Commissioner Joan R. Plumly – Correspondence and information on Commissioner Plumly. 1988, post-Abele.

FF7- Green, L.A. – Correspondence and information on Leonard Green, Commissioner and director, National Wildlife Federation.

FF8- DER 1987 – Correspondence between DER and Fish Commission officials on various environmental issues.

Box 25 - Unlabeled (as are most filed folders)

FF1 – Correspondence on Chesapeake Bay issues between Fish Commission and Susquehanna River Basin Commission officials; report “American Shad Restoration in the Northeast, 1987”; copy of settlement agreement with FERC and PECO to provide minimum flow and fish passage at Conowingo Dam.

FF2 – Enforcement of Act 175 of 1980 requiring power companies to allow for minimum flows at dams; information on Shad restoration.

FF3 – Correspondence and information on Fish Commission and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission especially on issues of damming and hydropower projects.

FF4- Correspondence between Fish Commission and FERC officials on Patterson Dam hydroelectric project along Beaver River at Beaver Falls.

FF5 – Information on Mud Pond, Wyoming County (pre-Abele).

FF6- Correspondence between Fish Commission and FERC officials on Holtwood Dam project; newspaper articles on construction of “fishway” at Holtwood.

FF7 – Correspondence between Fish Commission, DER, and FERC officials on York Haven Dam on fish passage at York Haven.

FF8- Correspondence between Fish Commission, DER, and FERC officials on fish passage at Flatrock Dam hydroelectric state, Schuylkill River, Philadelphia County.

FF9 – Correspondence between Fish Commission, DER, and FERC officials on fish passage at Chain Dam in Easton.

FF10- Correspondence between Fish Commission and DER officials on maintenance of dredging on Walnut Creek; various correspondence on Walnut Creek issues.

Box 26 - Unlabeled

FF1 – Legal Opinions – Various legal opinions and interpretations from the Dept. of Justice (Attorney General) regarding related laws, regulations, and amendments to laws. Some pre-date Abele; copy of publication “Defining Fishing Rights on PA Waters”; newspaper articles on Fish Commission legal and enforcement actions; copy of article “Clean Streams Movement Enters Darkest Period in PA.”

FF2 – Fish Commission Procurement Study – Correspondence between OA, Fish Commission, and Dept. of General Services on Fish Commission procurement issues; copy of OA study “PA Fish Commission Procurement Study” and appendix, June, 1975.

FF3 – Low Head Hydro Dams – Correspondence on various issues relating to low head hydroelectric dams; statement of policy for “Requirements for Fish Passage Facilities, Low-Head Hydroelectric Installations.”

FF4 – Merger, Fish and Game Commissions – Copy of Legislative Budget and Finance Committee report on “Feasibility and Potential Impacts of a Merger of the PA Fish Commission and the PA Game Commission” April, 1975; various correspondence on issue of merger.

FF5 – Merger, Fish and Game Commissions – Correspondence, newspaper articles, resolutions, and legislative correspondence on potential merger, mid 1970s.

FF6 – Merger, Fish and Game Commissions – Correspondence with Governor’s Office on potential merger and on internal improvements in operations of Fish Commission, and report on “Governor;s

Review of Management” 1972; Joint State Government Commission “Report on Fish and Game Commissions” dated 1947 and report on “Funding the Game and Fish Commissions” June, 1976.

FF7 – F.E. Masland 1976-1985 – Various and extensive correspondence between Masland and Abele on a variety of issues; copies of letters to editors of various newspapers written by Masland; copies of letters to members of Congress and U.S. Presidents written by Masland; correspondence between Masland and Fish Commission ED Robert Bielo.

Box 27 - Unlabeled (as are most file folders)

FF1 – Correspondence between Abele and Commissioner Calvin Kern on a variety of issues such as Shad restoration on Lehigh and Delaware Rivers.

FF2 – Correspondence between Fish Commission officials and Stroud Water Research Center of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, on testing of several small streams for ‘ecosystem response to toxic stress.

FF3 – Information and internal correspondence on ‘Agency Shop’ legislation and agreement between public employee unions and Casey Administration.

FF4 – Information on Adult Trout Stocking Study Group, 1987. Copy of report “Adult Trout Stocking Study Group, 1986.”

FF5 – Information on Allegheny National Forest General Management Review and correspondence relating to Abele’s participation in this project.

FF6 – Information on American Fisheries Society 1990 conference in Pittsburgh.

FF7 – Copy of “Anadromous Fishery Study” by the Delaware River Basin Commission; correspondence between Fish Commission, Fish and Wildlife Service, DER and DRBC on cooperative agreement for Shad restoration.

FF8 – Correspondence and information on H.B. 1107 of 1991 to change the name of the PA Fish Commission to the PA Fish and Boat Commission and to increase boat registration fees for the first time since 1963.

Box 31 - Allegheny Dredging

FF1 – HB 685, Allegheny Dredging – Correspondence from Abele to members of the General Assembly expressing policy and technical concerns over HB 685 of 1973. Copy of Master’s thesis “A Study Determining the Effect of Silt, Originating from River Dredging on the Allegheny River on Macro-organisms” by Indiana University of PA student James H. Kennedy, 1973. Various internal studies, interagency memos, newspaper articles and general information on dredging.

FF2 – unlabeled - Information on Beck v. Commonwealth, 1985, seeking recovery of \$21,000 from Fish Commission for sale of two 19 foot boats. Issues over boat quality. Commonwealth-filed counter claim. Handwritten notes from Commission counsel on subject.

FF3 – Pleading – Additional information on Beck v. Commonwealth. Requests from plaintiff's attorney requesting documents from the Commonwealth.

FF4 – Mr. H.T. Hardie - (file appears to be mislabeled) Information and study from Tech Labs, Inc., 1972, on "Turbidity and Suspended Solids in Allegheny River Water."

FF5 – HB 685 Allegheny Dredging – Interagency correspondence, newspaper articles, press releases, copy of HB 685 and amendments.

FF6 – Beck Marine – Copies of defendant's interrogatories in case of Beck v. Commonwealth. Copies of Commonwealth purchase orders from Beck Marine.

FF7 – Thesis, J. Kennedy – Copy of thesis by James Kennedy, as in FF1.

FF8 – Dredging, Allegheny River – Objections by Fish Commission staff to DER over dredging of 'pool 6' of Allegheny River. Correspondence, newspaper articles and related information on dredging issues especially by Davison Sand and Gravel, Inc. Call memoranda from Governor's Office to Abele ordering DER to issue permit to Davison. Reports from Davison on dredging activities.

FF9 – Dredging, Allegheny River – Interagency correspondence on dredging activities. Copies of testimony before DER committee by Fish Commission staff outlining dredging concerns. Correspondence in which DER and Fish Commission staff disagree over certain dredging policy issues. Copies of newspaper articles on dredging.

FF10 – Dredging, Allegheny River – Copies of audit by Auditor General Robert P. Casey's office on royalty payments from companies engaged in dredging. Legal briefs by the Commonwealth and Commission before the Environmental Hearing Board on permitting of dredging activities.

FF11- Allegheny River – Internal correspondence and between state agencies on dredging issues. Fish Commission report "Why Does Pool 6 Warrant Special Protection from Commercial Dredging." Information from public hearings on dredging activities. Newspaper articles on subject.

FF12 – Beck Marine – Legal filings, briefs, purchase orders, and related material on subject of Beck V. Commonwealth.

Box 33 – Unlabeled (most information is post-Abele)

FF1 – Elk Creek Acquisition- Information on acquisition of creek in Erie County.

FF2 – Big Spring – Prelitigation correspondence, e-mails, and relating information relating to Big Spring Hatchery and protection of it.

FF3 – Cedar Springs Property – Correspondence, information and copies of deeds for disposition of Cedar Springs property in Clinton County.

FF4 – Commission Regulations – Copies of various regulations and public correspondence relating to.

FF5 – Fee Report – Information, proposed legislation, revenue projections and detailed fee inventories relating to 1991 proposed fee increase for boat registrations.

FF6 – Fishing License Section Depository Fund Reconciliation – Accounting information relating to subject.

FF7 – Revenue Projection, 1993 – Accounting information and various reports including revenue projections from Commission fees.

FF8 – Revenue Projections, 1988 -1990 - Accounting information and various reports including revenue projections from Commission fees.

FF9 – Revenue Projections, 1990 - Accounting information and various reports including revenue projections from Commission fees.

FF10 - Fishing License Fees, 1982-1983 – Accounting information including ledger sheets and projections relating to proposed fee increase.

FF11 – License Information – Correspondence and information relating to Commission license fees, early 1990s. 1992 report on “Sales and Trends” and information on Act 1992-7 impacting senior and lifetime licenses.

FF12 – Funding Initiative Team Report – Report from internal team on Commission funding status, initiatives, and options, 1995.

