

## Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

### **EXCOM Teleconference Minutes**

Date: December 8, 1999

#### **Participants:**

Ken Hashagen (President), Ed Cheslak (Secretary/Treasurer), Allen Bingham (Web Master), Dave Hohler (Oregon Chapter), Buddy Drake (Montana Chapter), Bill Bradshaw (President Elect), Mary Lou Keefe (EEO Committee Chair), Eric Knudsen (Vice President), Rollie Montagne (Greater Portland Ch), Tim Slaney (North Pacific International Chapter), Ted Koch (Idaho Chapter), Bob Bilby (Past President), Mary Knapp (Humbolt Chapter), Bill Bechtol (Alaska Chapter)

**Call to Order/Quorum: a quorum (5 officers & 5 chapters) was present.**

#### **President's Report:**

Venice Beski (Historian): Venice has done a great job in organizing lists of all past award winners and working with Allen Bingham to get the information on the Division's web page. Venice will be purchasing archive boxes and labels so our historical information will be properly stored.

Alaska Chapter Trip: had a good trip, good meeting, good graphics. The Alaska Chapter has a past presidents committee to keep them involved; they are looking into voting by email (Allen Bingham will keep an eye on and work with appropriate folks in Bethesda to see if we can use this instead of regular mail)? We need to figure out a way to keep it honest (e.g., issue a pin number). Confidentiality would be more of an issue, hard to have a true anonymous ballot. Bylaws require mail, so might need a change in the bylaws. Alaska Chapter has a CD for student support (use interest to support student travel to the meeting). Ken suggested we put the WDAFS budget on our web page. He will work with Ed Cheslak to accomplish this. Alaska is also working to reduce registration fees for retired folks. Excom thought this was a good idea; one problem is the definition of retirement? Discussion followed. Bill will work with Arrangements Committee to determine what to do this year at our annual meeting in Telluride.

Letters to chapters have gone out and Ken got a good response to his request for correct email addresses; felt that the effort was worthwhile. He feels we are building some momentum now, as evidenced by the increased participation in the conference calls.

Certification Challenge: Alaska Chapter has committed; other chapters need to sign on. Ken will contact the Cal-Neva Chapter to see if they will participate.

Ken asked for chapter Excom members to plan to attend WDAFS annual meeting or make sure someone from their Excom is represented.

EEO committee chair Mary Lou Keefe is working with Dana Weigel (Nez Perce tribes) organizing a diversity symposium. Now has four speakers, Ed to find some minority owned business who may want to participate. Mary Lou will send in a grant request to support the symposium.

### **Secretary/Treasurer's Report:**

Total funds of Division are \$84,893.62; \$14,250.98 are in checking the rest are in savings or short term deposits. An additional \$6,295.59 of expenses came in for the '99 annual meeting. This should complete the outstanding bills for this event. A total balance sheet has not been prepared, however, the Division probably made only \$3-4,000. We are also having problems collecting credit card charges for registration. Approximately \$4,500 is outstanding due to charges on unacceptable cards (American Express), cards whose valid dates have expired before the charges were submitted, and rejected charges. Our attempts to get the records of these charges from Cindy Deacan-Williams has been unsuccessful. Ken and Ed are both actively trying to contact Cindy, get the names of the delinquent charges and follow up with collection efforts.

### **President-Elect's Report:**

Bill Bradshaw is committed to a statistics work shop for the Telluride. Program ideas have been out on the web for awhile. Annual meeting is listed in Fisheries. Housing is being arraigned. Bill will work with Ed to set up a budget.

### **Vice President's Report:**

Joint meeting with National in 2001; working on a session to be sponsored by WDAFS; traveling to Arizona/Nev chapter meetings to coordinate 2001 meeting. Working on liaison with committees? Some are doing great others are not even active. Eric trying to get committees with no status up to date; wants to use web site to use committees as a place to keep track of things. Paul can then take from them for Tributary. Need to add external committees to keep them up dated. Need volunteers for these committees; maybe set these external committees up with co-chairs. Check Tributary and see what is there- endangered species, conservation, riparian,..

Membership committee has sent correspondence to national committee members requesting modification of dues structure for those who sponsored new people (as an incentive). They are getting back with a decision. Right now WDAFS is planning to sponsor a symposium at national meeting in 2001; Bob suggested that Eric talk with Pete Bisson who did that for the Monterey meeting.

### **Past President's Report:**

Riparian Challenge award process is underway; handled by the Riparian Committee. Requested chapters consider filling out Chapter of the Year forms. Traditionally, Division has made a hard or electronic copy available to each chapter president (Ken will provide Allen with a copy of last year's forms; Pete Bisson may have the electronic version). If anyone has any nominations for any Division awards please send them to Bob.

### **Web Masters Report:**

Allen just sent out an email to chapter presidents to check chapter listings to see if they are up to date. Discussed the names of the chairs of the various committees so that he can get the proper listing. Still need to get past copies of the Tributary from Paul Evans.

### **International Fisheries Section:**

Ken has gotten a request from IFS for a World Fisheries Congress sponsorship. Asks that WDAFS give \$250 (or more) for the Congress; will be talking about this in January as the WDAFS considers all of the grant proposals. Funds would be used to support the meeting and assist in cost of publishing abstracts. The letter has been sent to several of the chapters and sections as well.

### **Chapters Reports:**

Oregon Chapter asked if is there a schedule out for WDAFS future annual meetings? Not yet, Oregon is interested in hosting the WDAFS in 2002 and are also interested in putting together a watershed restoration workshop at that meeting

### **Old Business:**

External Committees need volunteers. Ken asked everyone to think of competent, willing, self starters and get the information to him.

Strategic Plan: Ken would like to put together a strategic plan; pulled one from national, sent it out to Excom for comments has not received much input back. What does this mean? Is the Division not interested?

Society for Ecological Restoration Update: Ken and Pete put together three names and gave it to SER. These people are now actively working with them to provide a peer review. Eric felt that the WDAFS needed to be careful about advocacy; this was not an advocacy situation as the professionals were acting of their own recognizance to give a service to SER.

A request has come in for WDAFS to review an HCP for Plum Creek. The Division is being asked to critically review this document, formulate a position and let its concerns be known. Eric will look for a chair for the Conservation Committee and then assign this activity to the Committee.

Eric is requesting funds for a symposium at the 2001 meeting. Invite speakers to discuss sustainable fisheries throughout North America. Produce a proceedings volume. Bob asked that Eric put together a grant proposal for WDAFS support.

**Next conference call is scheduled for January 12, 2000.**