

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society
EXCOM Teleconference Minutes
Date: February 14, 2000

1. Participants included: Ken Hashagen, President, Bill Bradshaw, President-Elect, Eric Knudsen, Vice-President, Mike Meinz, Cal-Neva Chapter President, Allen Bingham, Web Master, Bob Wunderlich, Chair, Environmental Concerns Committee, Ed Cheslak, Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Bechtol, Alaska Chapter President, Rollie Montagne, Greater Portland Chapter President, and Bob Bilby, Past President.

2. A quorum was **not** present.

3. President's Report - Ken Hashagen reported that an invitation had been sent to President Moffitt, inviting her or other officers to the Telluride meeting. Chapter of the year paperwork is due to Bob Bilby by April 1, 2000. Although the Division had been invited to the Oregon Chapter meeting, none of the officers had been able to free up their work scheduled to attend. Hashagen and Bradshaw will be attending the mid-year meeting in Bethesda in mid-March.

4. Secretary-Treasurer's Report - Ed Cheslak reported a balance of \$85,453 in the Division's joint savings/checking account. While some funds are in CDs, about \$36,000 is liquid and could be shifted to checking if the need arises. We have received \$2,058 in interest to date this year. We still have a major problem with about \$4100 of credit card charges to the Moscow meeting. Ed Cheslak and Cindy Deacon Williams, the Arrangements Chair for the Moscow meeting, continue to work to resolve this issue. Some records were lost in the mail and we are hoping that the Bethesda Office can provide us with duplicate information. Ed will request our dues rebate from the Society.

5. President-Elect's Report - Bill Bradshaw reported that the arrangements for the meeting are moving along smoothly. Dirk Miller will handle solicitation of vendors; we have a raffle chair and the first call for papers is at the printer and on the web page.

6. Vice-President's Report - Eric Knudsen attended the Arizona-New Mexico Chapter meeting to represent the Division and communicate the numerous Division-level activities the chapters should be aware of. He particularly encouraged the Chapter members to participate in the Telluride meeting. He also attended a meeting of the Phoenix 2001 AFS Planning Committee, on which he serves as co-chair. As Division liaison to the Planning Committee, he has arranged for a luncheon/business meeting to be held for Division members and arranged for the Division logo to be prominently displayed on meeting information and materials. The Division will be much more visible in Phoenix than it was in Monterey, when the Division also co-hosted.

7. Past President's Report - Bob Bilby has a list of names to contact to identify candidates for Vice President, and will start making contacts next week. We need to identify a Nominating Committee representative, but our Secretary-Treasurer serves a 2-year term and still has a year to go. Bob is also looking for nominations for our awards. To date, no one has given him any input. Allen Bingham pointed out that the information on the web page relating to the awards is incomplete. Bob and Allen will work to fill in the gaps.

8. Newsletter/Web Page Reports - Paul Evans was unable to participate in the conference call but did give a report to Ken Hashagen. The printer we have been using for the Tributary

has decided not print in the newsprint format and no longer wants small jobs like ours. Paul was looking for a new printer but had to leave for a 2-week stint in Egypt digging up mummies for DNA samples (If that isn't the truth, at least it is a very inventive excuse for not making the conference call!). Allen Bingham puts material up on the web page practically before he receives it. There is material on the Telluride meeting and the call for papers. Allen noted that the Winter issue of the newsletter had not been received from Paul and as such has not been posted on the web site. Allen announced that the Committees page on the web site could be used more fully by providing links to each committee's information. Additionally, he noted that a number of Committee Chairs were vacant.

9. Committee Reports - Bob Wunderlich said the Plum Creek EIR Review Committee was hard at work and should have a product for Excom review and approval in March.

10. Old Business - The Society for Ecological Restoration (SER), charged with coordinating a review of the Washington Forests and Fish Report, asked the Division to provide them with the names of three qualified fisheries biologists to participate in the review. Ken Hashagen, with the help of others, provided the names. The Review Committee prepared a draft report, but inaccurately portrayed the Division's role. Ken is working to get the report changed. They have also put the information on their web page. Ken has told them the web page must be pulled until it accurately reflects the Division's role on the Review Committee and a disclaimer inserted that indicates that although Division members participated in the review, the review doesn't reflect the position of the Division on the Forests and Fish Report. Ken has prepared a statement for our web page, which Allen has posted, and has contacted Gus Rassam, AFS Executive Director, for advice and counsel. SER has not responded to Ken's emails. SER's web page can be accessed at

http://www.halcyon.com/sernw/for_fish/for_fish.htm

11. New Business - The Executive Committee had planned to evaluate accumulated grant requests, but ran out of time. Another conference call will be held on **February 23, 2000 at 10:00 Pacific time** to discuss only the grants.