

Teleconference Minutes for August 7, 2007
Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

Attending: Bob Hughes, Eric Wagner, Scott Bonar, Patrick Goddard, Keith Underwood, Amy Unthank, Lori Martin, Salvador Lluch-Cota, Doug Young, Leanne Roulson, Jeff McLain, Dave Lentz.

A quorum was established and the July conference call minutes were approved.

Dave Ward had submitted a budget file forwarded by Bob Hughes, but was not present to discuss the treasurer's report. There was no further discussion of the budget.

Bob Hughes announced that Eriek Hansen, student subunit president for the Utah State subunit, was the AFS2007 student travel winner. He will be reimbursed for up to \$1000 in travel expenses for the San Francisco AFS annual meeting. Patrick Goddard, who had submitted a support letter for the award, reviewed some of Eriek's accomplishments.

Meeting reports

2007. Dave Manning was busy with a conf call for that meeting so could not participate in the WD conference call

2008. Doug Young, incoming president for the Oregon Chapter (Doug_young@fws.gov) gave an update on the preparations for the upcoming Western Div. Meeting in May 08. The Portland visitor center is helping promote the meeting and has developed a poster for display at San Francisco. He expected that spring Chinook salmon fishing should be good for visiting biologists at the time of the meeting. Doug is seeking input into options for continuing education courses.

Action item: An email will be sent by Dave Lentz soliciting input along with a reminder about the Maughn/Trachtenburg scholarship deadline, Aug 15th.

2009 Albuquerque. Nothing new to report.

2011. Salvador noted that the Mexico chapter will be submitting a proposal to host the national meeting. Cal-Neva president, Jeff McClain, will be writing a letter in support of the bid. Keith Underwood said that North Pacific International Chapter is also going to prepare a bid. Salvador said the deadline for submission is Aug 13. Idaho Chapter is also submitting a bid, but was not represented on the call.

Archives Scanning

Lori Martin talked with Venice Beske, WD archivist, about the transfer of the archives to Spearfish, SD. She recommended scanning key items before shipment to SD. She is doing the same for the CO/WY chapter archives. She recommended that materials be *loaned*, rather than donated, so that items can be returned to AFS in the event that Spearfish should ever close down. WD has about 30 boxes of stuff that need to be gone through.

Action item: Bob, Eric and Lori will discuss further outside of the call to determine what items should be scanned.

Western native fish

Leanne Roulson reviewed the status of the Western Native Fishes project. The project had a budget of about \$30,000, of which \$12,000 was provided by WDAFS. This is now spent, and the project is now overspent by a few thousand dollars (i.e., supported by Garcia and Associates). More money is needed prior to October 1 to get a report completed to satisfy funding sources. 110 of about 300 species in the project are being summarized by volunteers within the Division for the report. The deadline for this subset is September 10th, 2007. More help is needed to summarize the remaining species.

Leanne mentioned that a professor from Northern California Redlands College (Jim Ciarrocca) is willing to coordinate a Master's student to work on the database to convert the distribution maps into GIS formats that would be updated as data were entered into the system. The student will not need to be funded by the Division, but could use some travel support.

A motion from the WDAFS to the Parent Society will request funds to complete this project, and Jim Tilmant continues to seek funds as well.

Bull trout

No update from the committee, but Bob said the Fisheries article is out for peer review.

Newsletter

Dave Lentz said that he received the newsletter which had a typo, so it was sent back to Kasja Stromberg for correction.

Action items: Paige Ackerman will upload the newsletter file to the website when it is completed; Dave Lentz will subsequently distribute the link via the listserve.

New Business

Chapter meeting dates/locations were solicited from Chapter leadership

Action item: Chapter presidents please send your annual meeting information to Eric if you have not done so already (update your websites too!).

New year conference call schedule was discussed briefly. The 2nd Tues of the month will continue to be the default date for WD teleconference calls.

SFO WDAFS ExCom meeting 2 September 9-12 (suggested agenda items: budget, call dates, other issues??)

SFO WDAFS business lunch 5 September 12-2 (Awards: Excellence, Special Recognition, Past President, Riparian, Student Travel, Maughn/Tractenberg; 2008 WDAFS Meeting).