



American Fisheries Society
Western Division

- ALBERTA
- BRITISH COLUMBIA
- SASKATCHEWAN
- NORTHWEST TERRITORIES
- YUKON

- MEXICO

- ALASKA
- ARIZONA
- CALIFORNIA
- COLORADO
- HAWAII
- IDAHO
- MONTANA
- NEVADA
- NEW MEXICO
- OREGON
- UTAH
- WASHINGTON
- WYOMING

- WESTERN PACIFIC ISLANDS
AND TRUST TERRITORIES

TO: AFS Executive Committee

FROM: Tony Novotny, President-Western Division

SUBJECT: 1985-1986 Mid-Term Report
Western Division, American Fisheries Society

DATE: 15 February, 1986

The Western Division has been fortunate in that almost all committee chairpersons were willing to serve an additional year. Gordon Haugen, our Chairperson for the Riparian Habitat Committee stepped down after 3 years of dedicated work, and will continue to serve as an advisor to that committee whenever his expertise may be needed. Bruce H. Smith of Rock Springs, Wyoming is the new Chairperson of this important committee, and I have asked Past-President Neil Armentrout, President-Elect Don Martin, and our new Vice-President, Al Mills to assist Bruce in every way that they possibly can with this high priority committee, as their knowledge of Western Division riparian problems, activities, legislation, etc. far exceeds any of mine. Past Western Division Presidents Bill Platts, Bob White and Don Duff will also be called upon frequently to provide their expertise for the Riparian and for our other water resource committees. We are getting more requests for our Western Division Riparian Habitat slide/tape show, and I have made and loaned out several copies of the VHS prototype video version that NE Division member Don Flescher put together for us. I expect to see continued serious activity from this committee, and I hope to give my support as liason wherever possible, especially after most of the Western Division Chapter meetings are over. I have only one committee chair that I still have to fill (Student Concerns), and I am working with several Chapter Presidents to try to solve this problem.

The Water Development and Stream Flow Committee has continued to be ably directed by Dudley Reiser and Tom Wesche (Co-Chairs). This committee is extremely active, and I am happy to report that it is now over-subscribed with volunteers (Reiser and Wesche have closed it at 30 members!!!), and I will try induce recent volunteers to offer their services to related committees.

I am also happy to report that the Habitat Inventory Procedure Standardization Committee, ably chaired by Bill Helms of the Bonneville Chapter, has completed the first part of the Habitat Inventory manual, which is an extensive glossary. I am enclosing a single xerox copy with this report, and I have made copies to go to each member of our Western Division EXCOM. My understanding is funding is currently under control for first part printing, and that Paul Brouha is working with Bill on securing additional funding. Bill Helms and the members of this committee will make the Western Division and the American Fisheries Society "proud parents" of a much-needed, thoroughly researched procedural manual that will stand the test of time. We cannot thank them enough. The Western Division has 700 copies of the printers version available for sale at \$5.00/ copy, postage paid, from: Dr. Bill Helms, College of Natural Resources, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322-5200. If you want to order 5 or more copies, call Bill at (801) 750-2543, and he might give you a postage break. Make checks payable to "Western Division-AFS". At this price, you should be ashamed if you don't order at least 1 copy for each of your own EXCOM .

I spent considerable time this fall (1985) working closely with Howard Raymond, editor of our Western Division newsletter, THE TRIBUTARY, and Ellen Gleason, our Secretary-Treasurer to develop the best system for producing and mailing THE TRIBUTARY for the least possible cost. Our mailing list is now close to 2700 for each issue. We budget \$2500/year for publishing and mailing two issues of THE TRIBUTARY. This is the biggest annual expense for the Western Division, but the newsletter is our first line of communication to all members. Through Ellen's diligent efforts, we were able to cut mailing costs by 1/3 with little perceivable loss in service, and allow for an expansion of the newsletter volume per issue, and still stay within budget. After this success, Howard and I were embarassed to note that we had not included Ellen in the list of Western Division officers in the fall issue. We will correct that in the next issue.

During the Sun Valley meetings, Marcelle Lynde, Secretary-Treasurer of the Marine Fisheries Section and myself started planning for the third annual AFS booth at the Seattle FISH/EXPO, the largest commercial fisheries trade show in the world. This show is held each October in Seattle on the odd years, and in Boston on the even years. Each year now, they offer us a complimentary booth. In Seattle, it is hosted by the MFS/AFS and WD/AFS, with assists from the North-Pacific International Chapter. In Boston, it is hosted by the NE DIV/AFS and MFS/AFS. I have already sent the paper-work for Boston-1986 to Fred Serchuk. I think that all of the officers in the sections, chapters and divisions who have been involved in this agree that it is a lot of work, but it certainly has been exciting to spend that time each year talking to the commercial fishery people and explaining who we are and what we do. We have been encouraging lay people to join, and I know that each year we pick up a few new members. Our visual display material is improving, and we are gradually building up an excellant VHS library. This year, even the new Computer Users Section (CUS) officers hosted. I think that we are putting these on now for a little over \$100 in expenses, and we have 5 to 8,000 people going through in four days.

The International Sportsmen's Expositions enjoyed our booth, and immediately after FISH/EXPO, the ISE called to offer us a complimentary booth at the ISE shows in Seattle, Denver, and San Mateo. Our West Coast display is not that easy to ship, so I knew that it would have to be Seattle only. This was a big committment, as they were offering us a high visibility booth in the center of the Seattle Kingdome, 5 full days, and 13 to 15,000 recreational anglers coming through....the very people that we fought so hard for with the W-B bill. I talked Marcelle and the MFS/AFS into co-hosting this with WD/AFS, and from February 5-9, we had our eager volunteers talking up an AFS storm with many anglers and heads of sportsmen's groups who were really interested in what AFS is all about. I had hoped to have a prototype VHS tape ready on the W-B Bill, but just didn't have time. I can't give enough credits to Marcelle Lynde for the excellant job that she does for MFS, and for our retired NMFS technician, Dick Foust, who is always ready to put the booth together, relieve the booth hosts, and pack the booth away.

The Western Division officers spent a great deal of time during the first half of this term "on the road", and planning. Most of our Chapter meetings occur between November and April, and one of my goals was to try to have the Western Division represented at as many chapter meetings as possible (see the attached agenda). The response from the Chapters has been more than enthusiastic, and since the Western Division officers are doing much of this traveling at their own personal expense, the chapter officers have gone out of their way to minimize our costs. Through the courtesy of a lift in Dr. Keith Jefferts plane, and the generosity of the Alaska

Chapter, I was able to attend their entire meeting at Kodiak in November. President-Elect Don Martin attended the mid-term meeting of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies EXCOM in Reno on January 2nd, 1986, while I was laid up with the flu. Don presented WAFWA President Dr. Jack Donaldson with a check for over \$1000 as their share of the profits from our first trade show at the joint WD/AFS-WAFWA meeting in Colorado last July. By the end of January, I had recovered enough to drive down to Fresno and attend the annual meeting of the California/Nevada Chapter. The Cal/Neva Chapter members are some of the most hospitable and energetic people I have ever met. They are the most solvent financially (with about \$24,000 salted away) of any chapter and would be ready to host a parent society meeting. I had a call from the Reno Chamber of Commerce, and they think that they could do a fantastic job for an AFS meeting. Since the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies has terminated their agreement with AFS for joint meetings, I presume that we are free to choose after Toronto-1988. Our 1989 joint WD/AFS-WAFWA meeting is in the planning stages now, but it is almost a certainty that it will be in Seattle in July. This would present no conflict at all with an annual AFS meeting held in Nevada or California in September. If the Cal/Neva Chapter and Western Division were to offer to host the 1989 meeting, would the AFS-EXCOM be interested in a proposal???

Don Martin drove through blinding snow to attend the Montana Chapter meeting, and he will spend one day at the Idaho Chapter before boarding the plane for Boston. Vice-President Al Mills and Don Duff will attend the Bonneville Chapter meeting, and after the AFS Mid-term meeting, Don Martin and I will attend the North-Pacific International Chapter meeting. Sec-Treasurer Ellen Gleason will represent WD/AFS at the Sacramento Chapter meetings, and I will attend the April 2 meeting of the Portland Chapter, where I will review the AFS mid-term meeting, and the WD/AFS-WAFWA meeting in Portland next July. That will cover the Chapter meetings for the year, and then we will concentrate on committees and the annual meeting in Portland.

President-elect Don Martin has been working steadily with his Program co-chair, Gordon Haugen, Arrangements Chair Kirk Beiningen, Trade Show Chair Stan Smith, and the Oregon Chapter to present an outstanding joint meeting with WAFWA at the Portland Hilton. We begin on Saturday, July 19, with an all-day trout symposium sponsored by the Oregon Chapter. Sunday, July 20, is President Reinhart's "Divisional Retreat Day". With the assistance of the Portland Chapter, we are organizing a full one-day retreat at the Portland Hilton for the Western Division EXCOM, and the AFS EXCOM and the AFS Executive Director with the main objective to discuss parent society-division-chapter relationships and the long-term goals of AFS. I have talked to most of the Chapter Presidents either at the annual meetings or on the phone about President Reinhart's idea of a one-day retreat, and have had nothing but the most vibrant enthusiasm. I have been getting suggestions for agenda topics from them, I have some of my own, and I know that President Reinhart has subject material that she wants to cover. I will review a tentative agenda with her at the Boston mid-term, and prepare a final agenda and send out first invitations by March 15. Western Division and the Portland Chapter will host the retreat, and we have reserved a room that will seat up to 35 people in a "U" shape to provide a relaxed atmosphere. We will begin with a continental breakfast from 7 to 8 am; a mid-morning coffee break; a catered lunch from noon until one in the "retreat" room (we don't want anyone escaping); a mid-afternoon coffee break; and, hopefully, a small wine and cheese party afterwards. On Monday, July 21, the regular WD/AFS-WAFWA meetings begin, and these will conclude on Wednesday, July 23rd.