

Sept. 7, 1992

TO: AFS Executive Committee
 FROM: Donald L. Chase
 President Western Division
 SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT

Division Officers:

President:	Donald Chase
President-Elect:	Glenn Phillips
Vice-President:	Randy Bailey
Secretary/Treasurer:	Lynn Starnes
Immediate Past President:	Dave Burns
National Nominating:	Susan Martin

Chapter Presidents:

Alaska:	Alex Wertheimer
Arizona/New Mexico:	Sue Morgenson
Bonneville:	Mark Holden
Cal/Neva	Larry Week
Colorado-Wyoming:	Thomas Nesler
Hawaii:	George Boehlert
Humboldt:	Soyka Dobush
Idaho:	Steve Bauer
Montana:	Jim Peterson
North Pacific International:	Peter Delaney
Oregon:	Alec Maule

Committee Chairs:

Audit:	John Leppink
Equal Opportunity:	Cay Goude
Marine Fisheries:	
Native Peoples:	Joe Dos Santos
Riparian:	Mark Gorges
Stream Habitat Procedures:	Peter Bisson
Resolutions:	Dennis Tol
Threatend & Endangered Spp.:	Jerry Burton

Annual Meeting:

The WDAFS meeting was very successfully held in Ft. Collins, Colorado, July 13 - 16. The WDAFS co-hosted the meeting with the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter. Tom Powell, Tom Nesler, and many members of the Colorado/Wyoming Chapter made the event a success. In addition the WDAFS is thankful to the Colorado Division of Wildlife for their support and help. Finally, Glenn Phillips, WDAFS President Elect and '92 Program Chair did an outstanding job. The Toms and Glenn also put on a great WDAFS

retreat. I think we even surprised ourselves on how much we got done. We had well over 225 people present. Once again the Division offered a very attractive registration package (~\$100) which included meals and as an option dormitory housing.

Next year's meeting will be co-hosted with the Cal/Neva Chapter and WAFWA (Western Assoc. of Fish and Wildlife Agencies) in Sacramento, California. It will tentatively be held during the week of July 11th at the Sacramento Red Lion Inn. Randy Bailey will be Program Chair, and Cay Goude will handle local arrangements. Randy noted that not all arrangements between WAFWA and WDAFS is going smooth, we still have problems as far as meeting rooms, session topics, expenses, etc.. We have decided that if it is convenient the WDAFS will meet occasionally with WAFWA.

Finally, during the WDAFS EXCOM meeting we decided on our 1994 meeting location. It will be in Flagstaff, Arizona sometime in June. Tom Cain will be the local arrangements coordinator. The WDAFS will be co-hosting the meeting with the Arizona/New Mexico Chapter. The Division is pleased to see that many WDAFS Chapters are starting to compete to co-host WDAFS meetings. Also with the success of the '91 and '92 meetings the WDAFS has proven itself that it does not need WAFWA to have a successful meeting.

Audit/Finances:

The WDAFS is in fine financial shape. As was reported in our recent meeting we have a positive balance of over \$9,000. This included co-hosting two annual meetings ('91 & '92), and an extensive WDAFS officer travel to chapter meetings program. No report on how the recent audit went, but then I'm not in jail yet either. Lynn Starnes did an excellent job of "correctly" managing our books. The WDAFS made approximately \$12,000 profit on the '91 WDAFS meeting which was split with the Montana Chapter. We are sure that we will at least break even or even make some money on the Ft. Collins meeting.

Awards:

Award of Excellence:	Dr. Ted C. Bjornn of the Univ. of Idaho.
Award of Merit:	W.R. Meehan, Jack Williams, Willa Nehlsen, Jim Lichatowich, and Morgan Busby.
Robt. L. Borovicha Conservation Achievement Award:	Cecil Andrus, Govenor State of Idaho, and Orville Daniels
Chapter of the Year:	Idaho Chapter
Riparian:	Six awards were presented to various agencies.

Activism:

The WDAFS is very active in AFS/Fisheries activism. Either the division or almost every chapter has participated in some form

or another of activism. Consequently there is a lot of discussion on whether we should be activists, and how much activism. The Idaho and Montana Chapters both hosted sessions on activism. The WDAFS has supported the chapters in their activism. Activism included the following:

Western Div.: Co-hosted Fisheries Action Network meeting in San Francisco.
 Appointed members to Fisheries Action Network to review NMFS, FWS, and BLM plans.
 Development of an "Action Agenda"

Alaska: Yukon River stocking
 Alaska in-stream flows

Arizona/New Mexico: Proposition 200 anti-trapping bill.
 Arizona state land exchange bill.
 Charlotte Copper Co. diversion into Pinto Creek.

Bonneville: Letter to USFS concerning NEPA process on small timber sales.
 Supporting reintroduction of river otter into Green River.
 Letter to USFS urging full EIS and "no action" alternative on a timber sale.
 Considering T&E listing of *virgin spinedace*.
 Sent letter to FWS urging consideration.

Cal/Neva: Continued efforts to protect Sacramento winter-run chinook salmon.
 Examining several species for potential T&E listing. These are: Delta smelt, longfin smelt, splittail, and spring-run chinook. A white paper is being prepared.
 The chapter is scrutinizing all major rotenone projects.
 Opposed relaxation of water quality standards at Eagle Lake to protect rainbow trout fishery.

Humboldt: Completed "Factors in Northern California Threatening Stocks with Extinction" paper. Plans extensive distribution.

Idaho: Joined with the Oregon Chapter and Oregon Trout to petition ESA listing of three chinook salmon stocks.
 Promoted legislation (which passed) designating the cutthroat trout as Idaho state fish.
 Developed "Advocacy Interim Guidance Criteria".

Montana: Hired attorney to represent chapter on Missouri River instream flow reservations.
 Formed Montana River Watch to document stream dewatering.
 Hired lobbyist for MCAFS to Montana legislature.

North Pacific: Oil Conservation video tape production.
 Testified on behalf of AFS on Snake River salmon.

Oregon: Working on petition for ESA listing of bull trout.
 Passed resolution on supporting development of an Agricultural Practices Act.
 Provided comments to secure protection of instream flows for Lahontan cutthroat trout.
 Received \$5,000 grant from Fred Meyer stores to develop displays.

The above are only partial listings of chapter/division activism. Many chapters are forming "action agendas" to help them become more active and effective. All I can tell is that activism will continue to flourish in the WDAFS. To further "proper advocacy" the Idaho Chapter developed the following advocacy criteria, which was modified for the WDAFS, and was passed unanimously.

Advocacy Interim Guidance Criteria

Criteria

1. Is the issue pertinent to WDAFS goals?
2. Will WDAFS involvement make a difference?
3. Is there WDAFS membership support?
4. Does WDAFS have sound technical information?
5. Have minority opinions been solicited and presented?
6. Does the urgency of the issue warrant action without full membership approval?
7. Is WDAFS willing to follow through?
8. Are the geographic boundaries of the issue appropriate?

Steps

1. Chapters or committees recommend action to WDAFS EXCOM.
2. WDAFS EXCOM reviews action relative to criteria, and:
 - a. refers to committee, or
 - b. solicits wider review of membership, or
 - c. takes action as appropriate.

Possible Actions

1. Send a letter of comment;
2. Draft a resolution;
3. Complete a position or policy paper;
4. Refer to International AFS;
5. Recommend an educational forum;
6. Action denied with justification.

Elections:

Elections were completed by the time of our annual meeting and the results are as follows:

Vice-President:	Carl Burger
Secretary/Treasurer:	Chris Moffit
National Nominating:	Tom Powell

Other items:

Jim Reynolds (Univ. of Alaska - Fairbanks) is will be providing editorial expertise on a future WDAFS publication on electrofishing injury. This publication has resulted from the success of our technical sessions at the '91 and '92 annual meetings.

I apologize for the lateness of this report and that I will not be able to attend the annual meeting in Rapid City, South Dakota. However, family matters have prevented me from being prompt and from having me attend the meeting. I want to thank the AFS Officers, EXCOM, and the myriad of other folks that I have had the chance to work with and for. You have greatly added to my success and have taught me what professionalism is.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald L. Chase

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President Western Division AFS