

# American Fisheries Society

Western Division

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August 22, 1994

FISHERIES DIV.  
DEPT. FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS

TO: WESTERN DIVISION LEADERSHIP

FROM: RANDY BAILEY, PRESIDENT WESTERN DIVISION

SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT AND CLOSING THOUGHTS

By the time you receive this letter, I will be past my tenure as president of the Division. I've enjoyed my time in office and wish I could have done more. You should be proud of the things the Division's membership has accomplished in the past year and I know we'll keep the momentum right through Carl's presidency. With this letter, I am transmitting a copy of my report to the Society's President, Ray Hubley, for presentation at the Executive Committee meeting in Halifax. I'm sorry to report that some last minute work commitments (not my choice) precluded my traveling to Halifax. However, Lynn Starnes did agree to attend the Executive Committee meeting as my proxy.

As past president, I will assume responsibility of chairing the Nominations and Awards Committees. I encourage each of you to identify those members you believe are deserving of one of the Division's awards or may be interested in stepping into a leadership role in the Division.

I do have some final requests that will help Carl in his new role as President: 1) Please send a list of all current chapter and committee chairpersons to Carl as soon as possible. He will be getting requests for this information from the parent society and other chapter presidents soon, 2) a list of your meeting dates, so Carl can allocate a Division representative to attend your annual meeting, and 3) I would like each chapter to consider providing the Division with a \$300 donation to help cover the cost of mailing the 1872 Mining Law Report prepared by the Division's Environmental Concerns Committee to each Division member in the U.S. During our budget discussions in Flagstaff we allocated what we thought would be enough money to cover the postage. However, when we finally settled on a course of action (have the central office duplicate and mail the document) we somehow forgot to allocate funds for the duplication and handling. Also, the postage was higher than anticipated. The bottom line is that we allocated approximately \$1,500 and the cost was \$6,000. I take full responsibility for the omissions. The Division is sound financially even if we must pay the entire bill, but our comfort level is decreased. I believe a small donation from the chapters will help. We still must derive a strategy to deal with reauthorization of the Endangered Species Act since we also approved a mail out later in the year to provide the membership with additional information. The money for this project was included in our postage budget which is now exhausted. I hope you will consider this request at your annual or executive committee meetings.

Once again, I certainly enjoyed serving as your president and I hope we all keep doing good things for fish.



# American Fisheries Society

*Western Division*

July 27, 1994

TO: Raymond C. Hubley, President, American Fisheries Society

FROM: Randy Bailey, President, Western Division

SUBJECT: End of year report to the Executive Committee

Action Requested: None.

Division Officers:

President	Randy Bailey
President-Elect	Carl Burger
Vice President	Dennis Lee
Secretary-Treasurer	Christine Moffitt
Past President	Glenn Phillips
Vice President Elect	Tom Nessler

Chapter Presidents:

Alaska	Joe Webb
Arizona/New Mexico	Jack Kelly/Tom Cain (8/24)
Bonneville	Leo Lentsch
California/Nevada	Jennifer Nielsen/Susan Ellis (9/1)
Colorado/Wyoming	Ken Kehmeier/Bob McDowell (8/24)
Hawaii	Linda Paul
Humboldt	Richard Ridenhour/Mike McCain (8/24)
Idaho	Dick Scully/Wayne Paradis(8/24)
Montana	Chris Clancy/Jim Darling (incoming)
New Mexico State Student Chapter	Michael Reardon
North Pacific International	Kim Hyatt/Bob Bilby (incoming)
Oregon	Rich Carmichael
Portland	John Pizzimenti

Committee Chairs:

	Internal Affairs
Arrangements	Tom Cain
Audit	John Leppink
Awards	Glenn Phillips
Equal Opportunity	Ken Hashagen
Membership	Dennis Lee

Newsletter  
Nominations  
Program

Pat Dwyer  
Glenn Phillips  
John Rinne  
Terry Roelofs

#### External Affairs

Bull Trout  
Environmental Concerns  
Habitat Inventory Procedures  
Native Peoples  
Native Salmon Stocks  
Old Growth  
Resolutions  
Riparian  
Threatened and Endangered Species  
National Nominating Committee Representative

Tom Weaver  
Kelly Hepler  
Pete Bisson  
Joe DosSantos  
Pat Higgins  
Dave Fuller  
Dennis Tol  
Mark Gorges  
Jerry Burton  
Wayne Hubert

#### Annual Meeting Dates and Location:

The Western Division's Annual Meeting was held June 20-23, 1994 at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona. The meeting theme was "Ecosystem Management: New Approaches to Complex Issues" with an emphasis on management of major ecosystems in the West. Approximately 200 attendees were treated to an excellent plenary session of invited speakers discussing how we need to approach ecosystem management. We were honored to have Dr. David Cottingham from the Assistant Secretary of Interior's office, Dr. Mike Dombeck, Acting Director, Bureau of Land Management, and Dr. Dana Schmidt, Alaska Department of Fish and Game as Plenary Session speakers. The Division passed a motion to provide \$5,000 to assist in the publication of the ESU conference proceedings and approved in principle a \$3,000 annual scholarship for graduate students, subject to guidelines established by a scholarship committee. We were pleased to have President Hubley, President-elect Lee Redmond, and Executive Director Paul Brouha attend the meeting.

#### Chapter Reports:

##### Alaska:

AFS President Ray Hubley attended the chapter meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska in November. The chapter has developed a long range plan that steps down from the Society's. The chapter hosted a number of workshops including: coho salmon habitat improvement, sockeye salmon (jointly with Alaska Department of Fish and Game), radio telemetry for fish, two scientific writing workshops, and an applied geomorphology session. The chapter received the Western Division's chapter of the year award for 1993 and the Society's Best Chapter Award. The chapter has commented on a number of fisheries issues on topics such as PACFISH, Tongass National Forest management policies, and bycatch waste in commercial fisheries. Work is continuing on the

stocks at risk project funded by the Pew Charitable Trust.

#### **Arizona/New Mexico:**

The chapter continues to grow at an amazing rate and membership has tripled since 1990 with 167 members now enrolled. The chapter continues to emphasize the educational aspects of the fisheries profession and hosted an endangered species workshop in conjunction with the annual meeting. Environmental concerns chairs in both states regularly communicate with fisheries managers. The chapter hosted the Western Division's annual meeting in Flagstaff in June.

#### **Bonneville:**

The chapter will host the 1995 Western Division Meeting July 16-19 in Park City, Utah. Arrangements are proceeding smoothly. The chapter's annual meeting was held March 2-4, 1994 in Wendover, Utah. The chapter is updating the Annual Action Plan for 1994-95. In October, the chapter sponsored an electrofishing workshop in Logan, Utah and was attended by 40 biologists from 18 states and Canadian Provinces. The chapter has initiated a Grant-in-Aid program to provide small grants to chapter members with proposals designed to enhance fisheries and the profession.

#### **California/Nevada:**

The chapter met jointly with the Humbolt Chapter in late March and co-hosted a Klamath River symposium in Eureka. In addition, the chapter has been involved in the following activities: participated in NMFS's Pacific Salmon Technical Committee on coast-wide listing of coho salmon, reviewed and revised a pending petition to list steelhead south of San Francisco, participated in Pacific Rivers Council's effort to define and map critical watershed in California and to develop a statewide forest riparian protection policy for federal lands in California, advised revision of several petitions on listing of several native fishes, developed a cooperative liaison with other state resource societies in order to improve information exchange, and took the lead in planning a conference on Evolution and the Aquatic Ecosystem. The chapter's continuing education committee hosted the following courses: IFIM for biologists, IFIM for managers, white water safety, expert witness testimony, and a statistics class. The chapter also opposed a proposal to require licensing by the California Department of Forestry for all biologists working in the field.

#### **Colorado-Wyoming:**

In September, 1993, the chapter voted to increase its advocacy role in fisheries issues. The chapter held a joint meeting with the Colorado Wildlife Society in January with approximately 350 people attending. The focus of the meeting was on fishing and hunting ethics, work place integrity, and ecosystem management. The chapter sponsored the symposium entitled "Wild

Trout and Planted Trout: Balancing the Scale" in May with approximately 100 attendees.

**Hawaii:**

No annual report received

**Humboldt:**

The chapter continues to hold monthly meetings on a variety of fishery topics. The chapter hosted a joint meeting with Cal-Neva in late March with approximately 350 attendees. The chapter helped produce a Klamath Basin Fisheries Symposium concerning fisheries restoration actions in the watershed. The chapter participated in a highly successful squawfish drive on the Eel River and some tributaries to assess the distribution and relative abundance of Sacramento squawfish which were introduced in the last few years. The chapter has reviewed and is reviewing proposed legislation by Congressman Hamburg with regard to a Russian River Fisheries Restoration Act. The chapter sponsored continuing education courses on the following topics: Watershed Restoration: Assessment, Prevention, and Rehabilitation, Monitoring Cumulative Effects: A survey of Effective, Low-Cost Tools, and Monitoring Amphibians and Reptiles in Old Growth Forests and Other Habitats. The chapter is continuing to update its aquatic education program for elementary level students.

**Idaho:**

The chapter continues to very active with variety of issues. The chapter has commented on PACFISH and is participating in the bull trout review. The chapter continues to focus on environmental education and is developing a number of education tools to assist classroom teachers. The chapter has very active riparian, rare and native fish, and water quality committees. In addition, Don Martin has agreed to chair a parent society committee that will assist with the National Association of Conservation Districts "Irrigated Lands Initiative".

**Montana:**

The chapter continues to be very active on fisheries issues. The chapter is active in commenting on various federal actions, including PACFISH, riparian management, hardrock mining, and endangered species actions. The chapter is active in the environmental education arena and are working on producing a warm water poster and aquatic education boxes. The chapter sponsored a continuing education workshop on "Developing Skills for Public Outreach". The chapter continues to use Art Whitney as a lobbyist in the Montana Legislature.

**North Pacific International:**

The chapter held its annual meeting February 9-11, 1994 in Wenatchee, Washington with the meeting theme focusing on ecosystem management. Plenary session speakers discussed the key issues facing fisheries managers in the Pacific Northwest, especially with regard to stocks listed under the Endangered Species Act. The chapter co-sponsored a First Nations Fisheries

Workshop with the Canadian Aquatic Resources Section and B.C. Aboriginal Fisheries Committee in Richmond, B.C. Topics ranged from traditional approaches to natural resource management by tribal elders to GIS applications. The chapter continued work on a grant from the Pew Foundation to determine the "Status of British Columbia Anadromous Salmon Stocks". Data from nearly 9000 salmon and steelhead populations from the Department of Fisheries and Oceans have been incorporated into the data base.

#### **Oregon:**

The chapter received the Division's 1994 chapter of the year award. The chapter hosted the Society's 1993 Annual Meeting in Portland with over 1800 attendees making it the largest in the Society's history. Numerous comments have been received about the quality of the meeting. The chapter continues to be concerned about the appropriate level of advocacy on positions taken by the Society. The chapter's membership is still very concerned about the image that the Society is presenting. The chapter had withdrawn from the bull trout review committee, established by the Division in response to a request from the Intermountain Forestry Association, over concerns about professionalism. However, all of the concerns have been resolved and the chapter is now participating in the review. President Rich Carmichael did such an outstanding job with his annual report that I've appended it to this report. It takes a very active chapter to win the chapter of the year award in this Division.

#### **Portland:**

The chapter meets monthly to discuss a variety of topics relating to fisheries issues in the Pacific Northwest. Topics range from advocacy issues to human values in fisheries to groundwater use for hatcheries.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Bull Trout:**

This committee was established in response to a request from the Intermountain Forestry Association to review a sampling program and protocol regarding bull trout. The Division appointed four representatives from each of the chapters involved to conduct the review. Concerns over how the review might be used and financial considerations have led to a delay in completing the task. However, the concerns have been resolved and the committee will conduct the review pending approval of a cooperative agreement.

#### **Endangered Species:**

The committee is following the re-authorization of the Endangered Species Act. The Division will be requesting its members to write their Congressional delegations to support the re-authorization. A mail out is planned for early fall. In addition, chair Jerry Burton is following the stocks at risk projects of the Alaska and North Pacific International Chapters. Jerry also developed a one day workshop on the Endangered Species Act and has made the workshop

available to Division chapters for travel costs only.

### **Environmental Concerns:**

This committee has been charged with helping develop a Society position paper on reform of the 1872 Mining Law. Kelly Hepler has been working closely with various Division members and Executive Director Brouha to produce a final draft. A completed product has been received and was mailed to all non-Canadian Division members in July. Kelly is to be congratulated on his leadership in this effort. We have advanced the final product to the parent society for consideration as a position paper. We hope this effort will persuade the U.S. Congress to pass some long needed reforms.

### **Membership:**

Dennis Lee reports that labor bargaining units in California have succeeded in obtaining reimbursement for affiliations in professional societies. Reimbursements range from \$50-100 depending on the bargaining unit. Each member of the California Department of Fish and Game is now eligible to receive reimbursement for AFS membership as appropriate. What a great recruiting tool.

### **Native Salmon Stocks:**

The Division joined with the Pacific Rivers Council to request a coast-wide status review of coho salmon. The petition has been accepted by NMFS and we expect a decision to be published in October. The Division president has volunteered the Division's help to NMFS to facilitate the status review.

### **Old Growth:**

This committee has produced a Western Division Policy Statement on protection of headwaters and old growth forest watersheds which was passed by the membership in 1993. In addition, this committee provided a comment letter to the Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement Team dealing with the management of western forests. The committee hopes to continue its effort to highlight the importance of headwaters and old growth forests to the aquatic ecosystem.

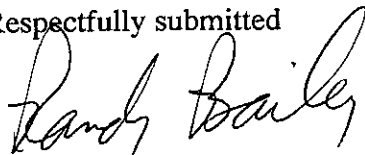
### **Riparian:**

This committee provided comments on the Rangeland Reform initiative in the Department of Interior. In addition, chairman, Mark Gorges has accepted the challenge of finding a number of willing souls to conduct riparian reviews on national forests and BLM lands in the West. The Division again presented the riparian awards for outstanding projects submitted by BLM and USFS. These awards are becoming highly competitive and greatly coveted by the competing districts and resource areas.

### **Stream Habitat:**

The committee has finalized an update of the Stream Habitat Glossary and is currently seeking funding to republish the document. A revised budget is being prepared and publication is expected in 1995. Peter Bisson is stepping down as committee chair and will be succeeded by Mike Young of the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Randy Bailey". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Randy Bailey  
Western Division President