



American Fisheries Society

Western Division

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APR 7 - 1994

April 1, 1994

FISHERIES DIV.
DEPT. FISH WILDLIFE & PARKS

To: Executive Committee, Chapter Presidents, and Committee Chairs
From: Randy Bailey, Division President

Subject: Mid-year reports and activities

BRITISH COLUMBIA
YUKON

MEXICO

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

WESTERN PACIFIC ISLANDS
AND TRUST TERRITORIES

I've enclosed a copy of my mid-year report to the executive committee of the parent society. I must apologize to the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter for not including their information in the report. I misplaced their input and of course didn't want to call chapter President Ken at midnight Colorado time the night before I left for New Mexico. Sorry!

Two major tasks are before us now. The Fisheries Administrators Section has developed a follow up document to the Snowbird workshop and now are asking for input from all subunits and members regarding implementation. A copy of the document for review is enclosed. Secondly, the parent society executive committee has developed a draft strategic plan to provide guidance to the executive committee on areas of work needed for the next few years. This plan was controversial in New Mexico, not so much from the actual content, as it was from the review process. The decision was made to conduct a review by all subunits and allow the strategic planning committee to revise the document in mid-summer and bring the final draft to the full executive committee in Halifax in August. A copy of the draft strategic plan is enclosed for your review. Remember, this is a working guidance document for the parent society executive committee, not a society-wide strategic plan.

Both documents need to be returned to the strategic planning committee by May 15, 1994. I am asking you to review the documents as you see fit and return your comments to me by May 13, 1994. I will consolidate (not edit) all the comments and send them on to Barry Johnson, chair of the strategic planning committee. Please feel free to contact Barry or any of the committee members if you have any questions before you send your responses to me.

Just a couple of quick notes: Don't forget to get your reservations in for the Division retreat by April 15, 1994. The Environmental Concerns committee have provided a final draft their work on reform of the 1872 Mining Law. If you're interested, please contact Kelly Hepler. Things have been fairly quiet at the Division level but the chapters are active as usual.

If you need any help from the Division, don't hesitate to call. See you in Flagstaff.



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WESTERN PACIFIC ISLANDS
AND TRUST TERRITORIES

March 9, 1994

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

FROM: Randy Bailey, President, Western Division

SUBJECT: Mid-year report to the Executive Committee

Action Requested: None.

Division Officers:

President
President-Elect
Vice President
Secretary-Treasurer
Past President

Randy Bailey
Carl Burger
Dennis Lee
Christine Moffitt
Glenn Phillips

Chapter Presidents:

Alaska
Arizona/New Mexico
Bonneville
California/Nevada
Colorado/Wyoming
Hawaii
Humboldt
Idaho
Montana
New Mexico State Student Chapter
North Pacific International
Oregon
Portland

Joe Webb
Jack Kelly
Richard Valdez
Jennifer Nielsen
Ken Kehmeier
Linda Paul
Richard Ridenhour
Dick Scully
Chris Clancy
Michael Reardon
Kim Hyatt
Rich Carmichael
John Pizzimenti

Committee Chairs:

Internal Affairs

Arrangements
Audit
Awards
Equal Opportunity
Membership
Newsletter

Tom Cain
John Leppink
Glenn Phillips
Ken Hashagen
Dennis Lee
Pat Dwyer

**Nominations
Program**

**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**

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

Annual Meeting Dates and Location:

The Western Division's Annual Meeting will be held June 20-23, 1994 at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona. The meeting theme is "Ecosystem Management: New Approaches to Complex Issues" with an emphasis on management of major ecosystems in the West. Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt has been invited to address the Plenary session. In addition, we will host the Point-Counterpoint debate on genetic issues.

Chapter Reports:

Alaska:

AFS President Ray Hubley attended the chapter meeting in Fairbanks, Alaska in November. The chapter is developing 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), and a radio telemetry for fish. 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.

Arizona/New Mexico:

The chapter continues to grow at an amazing rate and membership has doubled since 1990 with over 100 members. 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 will host the Western Division's annual meeting in Flagstaff in June, 1994.

California/Nevada:

The chapter will meet jointly with the Humboldt Chapter in late March and co-host 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 liasion 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.

Bonneville:

The chapter will host the 1995 Western Division Meeting 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.

Hawaii:

See attached at the end of this report, too much good stuff to edit it down.

Humboldt:

The chapter continues to hold monthly meetings on a variety of fishery topics. The chapter will co-host a joint meeting with Cal-Neva in late March. 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 proposed Headwaters Forest Act and Russian River Fisheries Restoration Act.

Idaho:

See attached since they've been very active also.

Montana:

See attached since they've been very busy too.

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" with an initial stock list to be produced within the next several months.

Oregon:

The chapter hosted the Society's 1993 Annual Meeting in Portland with over 1900 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 reconsidering their withdrawal.

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.

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 is expected soon.

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 information on the process will be published in the Federal Register in March. 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.

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.

President's Parting Shot:

I attended an organizational meeting of a proposed National Irrigated Lands Initiative sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts on behalf of President Hubley. I was extremely impressed by the need to do something about improving riparian habitats and water quality by irrigated agricultural interests. A great opportunity exists for the Society to provide a major leadership role and get chapters involved in many on the ground projects where our technical expertise is sorely needed. I believe a good effort at all levels of the Society is warranted.

Respectfully submitted



Randy Bailey
Western Division President

Randy:

Hope this is still timely. I've been on the mainland for the past couple of weeks. Your message was partially erased, but I will give you an update on the Chapter's activities for the past year. Sorry it's so long; feel free to pick and choose.

Linda

The Chapter holds quarterly meetings, with a recent commitment to hold at least one meeting a year on a neighbor island. In March 1993, the Chapter held a three-part meeting in Hilo. The first part, held at the Richardson Ocean Center, was open to the public. The Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources gave an overview of their work on the Big Island, followed by slide presentations of three ongoing projects in the Hilo area: 1) inshore marine creel survey work, 2) stock enhancement pilot releases of mullet in brackish waters, and 3) work on gobies in Big Island streams. Afterwards, the Chapter visited the University of Hawaii at Hilo College of Agriculture's aquaculture site at Panaewa and then toured the aquaculture operations at a traditional coastal fishpond, the Lokoaka Fishpond in Kaukaha, followed by a dinner where the various fishes cultured at Lokoaka were consumed, and lastly a business meeting and additional presentations by several Chapter members on their work on the Big Island.

In June the Chapter held its annual business meeting and elections at the Hawaii Maritime Center. Linda Paul was installed as President, Ron Englund was elected Secretary-Treasurer, Kimberly Smith was voted President-Elect. Members were given updates on two ongoing legislative efforts by the Chapter. First, a legislative bill sponsored by the Chapter that restricts gillnet usage in Hawaiian waters was enacted by the legislature and signed by the governor. This bill grew out of the work of a task force that was created by a legislative resolution that was drafted by the Chapter a couple of years ago. Second, in the Fall of 1992, the Chapter drafted another legislative resolution that proposed the formation of an interagency task force to come up with a set of protocols to alleviate the problem of introductions of alien marine species into Hawaiian waters via ship's hulls and ballast water. The resolution had been prompted by the arrival in the Spring of 1992 of an 800 foot navy dry dock that had spent seven years in Subic Bay. The resolution passed both the Senate and House committees, but the senate crossover version was allowed to languish in the finance committee until the session was over. The matter will be pursued.

In October 1993, the Chapter held its fall meeting at the Oceanic Institute. Following a business meeting at which members discussed, among other things, holding an annual fisheries-related symposium and supporting the establishment of a fisheries/aquaculture program at the University of Hawaii, Stan Moberly, past president of AFS National, gave a talk on his efforts to stop fisheries habitat loss and increase awareness of the problem not only among fisheries biologists, but also among commercial fishermen, conservation groups and school children. Following the presentation the members indicated an interest in forming a habitat awareness committee.

In January, 1994, the Chapter held its winter meeting at the Bishop Museum. The meeting was held jointly with a university group called Oahu Fishery Biologists. The ballast water issue dominated the business portion of the meeting, prompted in part by the recent, unannounced arrival of another resident craft from Subic Bay. Members were given updates on state and national ballast water efforts by members and guests associated with the State Department of Agriculture, the State Department of Land and Natural Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Bishop Museum. Despite the failure of the Chapter's resolution to pass the legislature last session, the effort was not wasted. An interagency task force has been formed to work on ballast water protocols. The chapter also voted to co-sponsor a symposium on Hawaiian stream biology with the Hawaii Division of Aquatic Resources. Following the business meeting, Greg Mooradian gave a presentation on laser imaging systems that use visual light and florescent imagery for quantitative marine monitoring. The Chapter's next meeting will be held on Maui in April.

February 21, 1994

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apter Position Statement on Water Quantity. I have
ompleted second draft as it appeared in our January
r. The Statement contains a recognition that out-of-
uses have altered and limited fish habitat and fish
his is followed by a list of recommended actions,
are related to irrigation. The draft is being
Professional Visibility and Riparian committees and
ll be brought before the full membership for a vote
meeting in McCall on February 25, 1994.

in the "Tributary" where you had met with irrigation
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fisheries. I will call you to discuss this in the

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parian Committee, under Steve Bauer's leadership,
er illustrating riparian functions and presented it
of Range Management's annual meeting in Colorado
February. The poster was displayed within a session
hins and Affiliated Associations. Steve said lots of
th poster and discussed riparian issues with him.
lay the poster at our upcoming ICAPS annual meeting

have done much
id use selected

Spangler and Susie Adams of the newly formed Rare
n Committee are developing a poster of rare Idaho
ve collected pictures of rare fish from around the
oter members, written biological descriptions for
d with a local artist to make the poster and been
funding for the project through the Forest Service,
Management and Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

FS EXCOM offered comments and a letter of support
i modifications of federal land management policies
ian areas of western streams commonly known as the
l. Our comments focused on consistency with the
to protect public resources until it can be proven
velopment will not jeopardize the riparian system.

2/16/94

TO: Randy Bailey

FROM: Chris Clancy

Randy, this is a list of some of the activities of the Montana Chapter:

1. Our Education Committee is putting together an "aquatic box" of materials that can be checked out to schoolteachers for use in the classroom. It will contain hands on materials for kids to look at and handle. We are expecting to produce 8 of the boxes for distribution to all Fish, Wildlife and Parks regional offices.
2. They have hired an artist to produce a poster of a warm water stream ecosystem. The final product will compliment our cold water poster that has been distributed.
3. The Chapter is looking into sponsoring a national workshop on public outreach, including how to make effective presentations in the different school levels.
4. We are in the process of producing another poster. This would be pictures of the species of special concern in Montana. It will be made available to schools statewide.
5. We are also committed to a cold water fish display, similar to the warm water display we finished last year. It would be used to setup at workshops and poster sessions and give the story of fishes of special concern.
6. We have been asked to have a member on the Governors task force that is putting together a Bull Trout Management Plan for Montana. I believe there are 8 seats on the committee.
7. We continue to comment on appropriate projects on federal land through our Land Management Committee.
8. We will again sponsor a summer workshop. This will probably be held near Cooke City and focus on mining.
9. We took a survey of the membership about personal activity withing the Chapter. From the results of that survey, we have identified a lack of activity from hatchery personnel. We will try to encourage their participation in the Chapter.
10. We have been approached by the Montana Chapter of the Wildlife Society and the Montana Academy of Sciences about cooperating on a Montana peer reviewed journal. Our membership is reluctant to get involved but we are looking into cooperating on

this project.

11. We comment on a number of issues to our congressmen. We are also commenting on the recent status review by the Fish and Wildlife Service on their list of fish.

These are the major items we are involved with. I could give you a more complete list if I had the minutes from our recently completed annual meeting, but I don't. I hope this suffices.