

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society
Mid-year Report
March 2008

Local and Global Leadership

Western Division

Members within the Division, in cooperation with other organizations and national AFS, have organized many scientific symposia and written books used throughout the world. Below is a list of titles along with a summary of the number of copies sold from 1999 to present (Thank you Aaron Lerner!).

Status and management of interior stocks of cutthroat trout, B.Gresswell
Published 1988, 227 copies sold since 1999

Mysids in Fisheries: Hard Lessons in Headlong Introductions Tom Nesler and E. Bergerson **Published 1981, 120 copies sold**

Fisheries and Oil Development on the Continental Shelf (Symposium 11: Proceedings from the 119th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society, held in Anchorage, Alaska, in 1989) **Published 1991, 88 copies sold**

Evolution and the Aquatic Ecosystem: Defining Unique Units in Population Conservation, Symposium 17: Proceedings from "Evolution and the Aquatic Ecosystem Symposium," held in Monterey, California, May 1994 **Published 1995, 500 copies sold**

Symposium 18: Proceedings of the "Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Symposium" held at Anchorage, Alaska, February 2-5, 1993 **Published 1996, 426 copies sold**

Symposium 19: Proceedings of the "Fish Ecology in Arctic North America Symposium," held at Fairbanks, Alaska, USA, May 19-21, 1992 **Published 1997, 187 copies sold**

Symposium 20: Proceedings from the symposium "Global Trends: Fisheries Management" held in Seattle, Washington, USA, June 14-16, 1994 **Published 1997, 188 copies sold**

Whirling Disease: Reviews and Current Topics J. Bartholomew and C. Wilson. 2002
Published 2002, 177 copies sold

Nutrients in Salmonid Ecosystems: Sustaining Production and Biodiversity J. Stockner, Symposium 34, 2001 **Published 2003, 542 copies sold**

The Ecology and Management of Wood in World Rivers Symposium 37
This book is the proceedings of the International Conference on Wood in World Rivers held in Corvallis, Oregon. **Published 2003, 462 copies sold**

Early Life History of Fishes in the San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Symposium 39, Frederick Feyrer, Larry R. Brown, Randall L. Brown, and James J. Orsi, editors **Published 2004, 180 copies sold**

Sustainable Management of North American Fisheries E. Eric Knudsen, Donald D. MacDonald, and Yvonne K. Muirhead, editors **Published 2004, 195 copies sold**

Propagated Fish in Resource Management 2005 Mary Nickum, Patricia Mazik, John Nickum, and Don MacKinlay, editors **Published 2005, 350 copies sold**

Sockeye Salmon Evolution, Ecology, and Management 2007 Carol Ann Woody, editor **Published 2007, 130 copies sold**

Status, Distribution, and Conservation of Native Freshwater Fishes of Western North America Mark J. Brouder and Julie A. Scheurer, editors **Published 2007, 85 copies sold**

Fishes of Alaska 2002 Catherine W. Mecklenburg, T. Anthony Mecklenburg, and Lyman K. Thorsteinson, authors **Published 2002, 1,200 copies sold**

Last Chance for the Pacific Salmon VHS, 60 minutes **NA**

Making Salmon: An Environmental History of the Northwest Fisheries Crisis Joseph E. Taylor III, 1999 **NA**

Mysteries from the Yukon: The Adventures of a Junior Biologist Lawrence S. Buklis, author **Published 2003, 195 copies sold**

Native Trout of Western North America R. Behnke **Published 1992, 1,325 copies sold**

Salmon 2100: The Future of Wild Pacific Salmon Robert T. Lackey, Denise H. Lach, and Sally L. Duncan, editors, 2006 **Published 2006, 720 copies sold**

Salmonid Field Protocols Handbook: Techniques for Assessing Status and Trends in Salmon and Trout Populations David H. Johnson, Brianna M. Shrier, Jennifer S. O'Neal, John A. Knutzen, Xanthippe Augerot, Thomas A. O'Neil, and Todd N. Pearsons, plus 37 contributing authors **Published 2007, 425 copies sold**

Saving Puget Sound: A Conservation Strategy for the 21st Century John Lombard 2006 **Published 2006, 1,820 copies sold**

The Behavior and Ecology of Pacific Salmon and Trout T. Quinn, 2005 **Published 2005, 540 copies sold**

Hughes, R.M., L. Wang, and P.W. Seelbach, editors. 2006. Landscape influences on stream habitat and biological assemblages. American Fisheries Society, Symposium 48.

Brown, L.R., R.H. Gray, R.M. Hughes, and M.R. Meador, editors. 2005. Effects of urbanization on stream ecosystems. American Fisheries Society, Symposium 47.

Rinne, J.N., R.M. Hughes, and B. Calamusso, editors. 2005. Historical changes in large river fish assemblages of the Americas. American Fisheries Society, Symposium 45.

Alaska Chapter

- Held annual officers elections at the annual meeting in Post Falls and transitioned officers at the Nov 14 Annual Chapter meeting. New officers are:

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|------------------------------------|-------------------|
| President | Bert Lewis |
| Vice President | Lisa Stuby |
| Past President | Jamal Moss |
| President Elect | Hamachan Hamazaki |
| Treasurer | Lee Ann Gardner |
| Secretary | Karla Bush |
| Student Sub-Unit Rep. (UAA campus) | Donna Eidam |
| Past President Committee chair | Scott Maclean |
| Environmental Concerns chair | Cecil Rich |
| <i>Oncorhynchus</i> editor | Gretchen Bishop |
- Held monthly EXCOM conference calls

Arizona-New Mexico Chapter

The chapter organized a plenary session on February 8, 2008 attended by over 350 Wildlife Society chapter members from AZ and NM, AFS chapter members and over 50 local attendees (who came just to this 1/2 day plenary) regarding the Verde River in Arizona. Six speakers ranging from a former AZ state senator/state treasurer to a Geology professor to the TNC represented various expertise and opinions on issues of water management in the Verde River basin. Many entities in Arizona have claims or interests in water of the Verde River and proposals for further rapid development, including a pipeline to remove groundwater, are a timely topic in Arizona. The plenary received local paper coverage in Prescott, Arizona and was attended by city and county interests. A field trip to a local nature preserve was organized and held after the chapter meeting for those interested in learning more about local issues.

California-Nevada Chapter

- Hosted 137th Annual Meeting that boasted nearly 3,000 participants from every U.S. state, Canadian province, and 25 countries
- Chapter Monetary support of travel for Mexican students and professionals to attend annual meeting
- President Jeff McLain and delegation (four Chapter members) attended first biennial meeting of Mexican Chapter of AFS and Mexican Fisheries Society in La Paz
- Pres-Elect David Manning an Int'l Affairs Chair Lourdes Rugge assisted MX Chapter with bid for 2011 Annual Meeting – including travel to Mazatlan to preview potential venues
- Int'l Affairs Chair Lourdes Rugge continues coordination with AFS International Section and MX leaders

Idaho Chapter

- Held annual officers elections at the annual meeting in Post Falls and transitioned officers at the February 8 EXCOM meeting. New officers are:
 - President - Jim Fredericks
 - President Elect – Chris Downs
 - Vice President – Earnest Keeley
 - Past President – Bart Gamett
 - Treasurer – Matt Davis
 - Secretary - Chris Kozfkay
 - Nominations Chair – Brett High
- Have 9 active committees and associated committee chairs
- Held monthly EXCOM conference calls
- Held annual EXCOM face to face meeting November 2-3, 2007 at McCall, Idaho

North Pacific International Chapter

The North Pacific International Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (NPIC) has recently increased its local and global leadership in several ways. First, the chapter is undergoing a rebuilding effort. After several years of relative inactivity, the chapter held a successful annual general meeting (AGM) in June 2007. Momentum has been building ever since. Second, NPIC is preparing for its international chapter annual general meeting, March 3-6. The theme is Sound Science; Mountains to the Sea, with an emphasis on the international Salish Sea, and its watersheds, that encompasses much of the landscape of Washington and British Columbia. Third, as a demonstration of NPIC's global leadership, the Chapter successfully bid on hosting the international AFS 2011 annual meeting in Seattle. Internal planning for that event is already underway.

Utah Chapter

Some involvement in providing information on various bills before the state legislature

Stewardship Education (education efforts outside of AFS)

Western Division

Cutthroat DVD Distribution—In 2007 and 2008, Kajsa Stromberg facilitated duplication and distribution of “Rising from the Shadows” DVDs about cutthroat trout conservation. More than 1,000 “Rising from the Shadows” DVDs about cutthroat trout conservation have been distributed to Chapters and members of the Western Division. The Western Division funded duplication costs and the Montana Water Center Wild Fish Habitat Initiative provided funding support for shipping. There are 440 DVDs remaining for distribution in the coming year, but currently no additional funding support for shipping costs.

Western Native Fishes Database — **Efforts continue with the native fishes database committee to develop a comprehensive database on the distribution, status, and threats to native species in the Western Division boundaries. A preliminary report has been completed in the fall of 2007. A student at Redlands University under the tutelage of Jim Ciarrocca has taken on the task of making the website interactive and updatable, with map**

generation capabilities. Efforts have been made to obtain funding for the project and several western AFS chapters have generously donated.

Alaska Chapter

- Student subunits conducted periodic workshops

Arizona-New Mexico Chapter

A Hazard Analysis and Control Points (HACCP) class was taught to 25 attendees prior to the chapter meeting.

California-Nevada Chapter

- • Chapter education grant to South Yuba River Conservation League
- • Monetary support and staffing of booth at the American River Salmon Festival
- • Student sub-unit conducted workshop for children at UC Davis Open House Event that attracts 50,000 participants
- • Student sub-unit provided booth at Trout Day at San Francisco's Lake Merced
- • Student sub-unit presented at 3rd-6th grade after school events

Colorado-Wyoming Chapter

- The Chapter sponsored a booth at the WY Game and Fish Department's Hunting and Fishing Heritage Expo; Chapter representatives promoted the missions of the AFS and Chapter, and provided interactive displays that focused on the Hutton Program, careers in fisheries, fish aging techniques, western native species, and aquatic nuisance species.
- Chapter members have and will continue to participate in the Hutton Program.
- The Chapter is updating CSU and UW libraries with all Annual Chapter Meeting Proceedings that are known to exist, as well as ensuring that all Proceedings are contained within the Chapter archives.

Oregon Chapter

- Chapter planned and hosted the 2008 Western Oregon lamprey symposium, co-hosted with many tribes, federal and state agencies, and academia.
- Completing edits of the 2005 Coastal Cutthroat Trout Symposium proceedings (to be published Summer 2008)

Idaho Chapter

- Worked with the USDA Forest Service to mail 42 copies of the *Rising from the Shadows* DVD to public libraries in southeast Idaho
- Provided approximately \$3,000 in funding to the Trout in the Classroom program. This included helping to fund a chiller and curriculum materials for teachers.
- Funded a sturgeon interpretive sign at the M-K Nature Center in Boise
- Printed anadromous fish brochures

North Pacific International Chapter

Coming off the successful 2007 annual meeting, the Chapter EXCOM voted to allocate \$5000 to support 2008 student activities. The funds will be used to support student attendance at the annual general meeting, for best student paper and poster awards, and to support the creation of student sub-units at Washington and British Columbia fisheries colleges and universities.

Utah Chapter

- Individual members have worked with a number of school groups to better inform them about aquatic resources.

Promotion of Stewardship (resolutions, position papers, letters to policy makers on issues, etc)

Western Division

- Western Division sent a letter requesting more time to comment on a Biological Opinion released by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association regarding threatened and endangered salmonid stocks in the Columbia River.

Alaska Chapter

- Letter of concern to Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game about sockeye salmon stocking project.
- Debated and declined to submit a friend of the court paper concerning the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill case before the Supreme Court.
- Ongoing environmental concerns committee work on jet boat and Chinook salmon stocking issues
- Past Presidents letter of concern to Governor about employee retention.

Arizona-New Mexico

The chapter commented on three issues through the Environmental Committee, these were to AZGFD on Stillman Lake (a proposed native fish renovation project significant to determining whether the Verde River will be managed for native fish in the future), comment on the rotenone RED process to EPA, and we submitted draft comments to USFWS on the Habitat Conservation Plan process for two large reservoirs in AZ (Bartlett and Horseshoe) which are permitted to Salt River Project, a large water manager in the state of Arizona.

California-Nevada Chapter

- • **Letter sent by Chapter to Marin County Board of Supervisors in Support of Protection and Enhancement of Central California Coast Coho Salmon**
- • **Chapter, Cal-Trout, and Center for Biological Diversity filed a lawsuit to challenge critical habitat designation for Santa Ana Sucker in southern Cal**
- • **Chapter supported development of petition to list Longfin Smelt as a State endangered species**

Colorado-Wyoming Chapter

- The Chapter has recently passed a resolution on curtailing illegal fish introductions. This resolution provided for the formation of a new special committee, the Illegal Stocking Task Force. Also, this resolution has been elevated to the Parent Society and they are currently considering adopting a similar resolution at the national level.
- The University of Wyoming (UW) Student Subunit participated in gill netting and removal of lake trout at Yellowstone Lake, Yellowstone National Park.
- The Environmental Concerns/Policy Committee will be working to package informational material for the membership that was gleaned from the plenary session at the 2007 Annual Chapter Meeting. Such information may lead to Chapter advocacy efforts related to energy activities in CO and WY.
- The Colorado-Wyoming Chapter of the American Fisheries Society collaborated with the Wyoming Wildlife Federation (WWF) to sign onto a petition letter from the WWF to Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal for "your past and current advocacy on behalf of Wyoming sportsmen and wildlife, and to ask for your continued and intensified leadership efforts to ensure that 'oil and gas' development in Wyoming proceeds on Wyoming's terms." The Wyoming Wildlife Federation was founded in 1937 and is a conservation and recreation advocacy organization. The Chapter successfully completed an email voting process to determine if we should collaborate with WWF or not.
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Oregon Chapter

- Provided technical comments and recommendations on the BLM's Western Oregon Plan Revision. This is a proposed plan that would greatly increase timber harvest within southern OR riparian reserves.
- Developed committees to track and begin position statements on : Copper-Salmon Wilderness proposal: Oregon's multiple wave energy proposals: Oregon's proposal to create marine reserves

Idaho Chapter

- Issued letter of support to Dr. Rob Van Kirk over issues arising from research he completed relating to the impacts of selenium on cutthroat trout. The letter was also send to officials at Idaho State University, the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, and the Idaho Mining Association.

North Pacific International Chapter

NPIC has not been active in this area recently, other than a focus on successful annual meetings that traditionally promote stewardship.

Utah Chapter

Information discussed at our 2007 annual meeting was provided to some county representatives to better inform them about mercury contamination.

Information Transfer and Outreach (increasing visibility and professional stature of AFS; collaboration/communication with other organizations)

Alaska Chapter

- Quarterly publication of the *Oncorhynchus* newsletter-transitioning to electronic version
- Supported travel of 16 students from around the state to attend annual meeting.
- Continued Molly Ahlgren student scholarship program
- Held annual meeting in Ketchikan with 176 attendees

Arizona-New Mexico

For this year the primary tasks are working with New Mexico Wildlife Society Chapter to provide them guidance on planning next year's joint chapter meeting (our chapter provides excellence in organization and electronic registration for attendees, as well as paper and poster presentations).

California-Nevada Chapter

- **Hosted 137th Annual Meeting**
- **Produce quarterly newsletter Pisces – sent electronically to all members**
- **Supported creation of Hawaii student sub-unit**
- **Int'l Committee works closely with Int'l Section and MX Chapter**

Colorado-Wyoming Chapter

- The Chapter has reached out beyond fisheries professionals in recent times to include law enforcement professionals involved in enforcing laws and regulations concerning illegal fish stocking and the spread of aquatic nuisance species.
- The Membership Committee continues to actively promote AFS
- The UW and Colorado State University (CSU) Student Subunits feature weekly meetings where speakers within the fisheries profession are invited to provide presentations discussing their research and work experience in the fisheries field. Subunits also promote the visibility of AFS with the sale of Chapter t-shirts, mugs, and pint glasses.
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- CO-WY AFS regularly publishes its activities, position statements, and resolutions on the Chapter's website which is available to anyone through the Internet (<http://www.fisheries.org/units/co-wy/>).

Idaho Chapter

- **Vaughn Paragamian is leading an effort to publish the Burbot symposium proceedings from the 2005 Annual AFS meeting; The reviews are complete and the book is nearly ready to publish.**

Oregon Chapter

- **maintaining active website**

North Pacific International Chapter

By focusing the theme of the NPIC 2008 AGM on “Sound Science”, the NPIC EXCOM is attempting to connect more solidly with the contemporary issue of Puget Sound recovery. This is a very important issue to the State of Washington: the Governor and legislature recently passed a multi-million dollar initiative to clean up Puget Sound. The Puget Sound program is expected to gain national significance at the level of similar efforts in Chesapeake Bay, the Everglades, etc. NPIC envisions an important role for AFS in this process, particularly as an arbiter of “best science”. The chapter will also be recommending that the state, federal government, and AFS collaborate on an international symposium about the Salish Sea, including Puget Sound, as one of the highlight topics for AFS meeting in 2011.

Utah Chapter

Student Sub-Unit of the Utah Chapter AFS Activities Report-

In the fall we started the semester off with a very successful meeting. We had 16 students attend with a majority of them being undergraduates, which is typically not the case. We elected three new officers for the subunit: Christy Meredith, vice president; Andy Hill, treasurer; Jared Bottcher, secretary. In October we took a group of folks to Porcupine Reservoir, located in Cache Co., UT, to watch the kokanee migrate upstream to spawn. It was an amazing site watching thousands of salmon migrate up such a small stream. During our November meeting we had one of members present a slideshow of his summer work in two of Alaska’s National Parks (Denali and Wrangell St Elias).

This winter we are anticipating taking a group of people ice fishing on one of the reservoirs here in the Cache Valley or Bear Lake. We are also planning on having several individuals to come to give brown bag seminars at a couple of our meetings, so students can be informed of the different career opportunities out there. We have several volunteers helping with our annual meeting, which is being held in Moab, UT. There are also several folks collecting flies from businesses and individuals around Utah for our Fish O’ Flies raffle item, which is done annually. Overall we have had a good year and plan on having a good winter and spring. Any questions or comments can be directed to the subunit president, Brian Hines (brian.hines@usu.edu).



Member Services (annual meetings, professional development, providing science-based info, web-based services, enhancing diversity of members)

Alaska Chapter

- 2008 annual chapter meeting held in Ketchikan November 14-16
 - Approximately 175 people attended
 - 80 contributed papers in addition to plenary session papers
 - 30 posters
- Awards
 - Issued meritorious and chapter service awards to Chapter members at the annual
 - Cultural Diversity travel award
- Continuing Education at annual meeting
 - Escapement Goal Workshop
 - Technical writing
 - Public Speaking

- Robert's Rules 10 people attended
- Student Units
 - Continued support of the student units

Arizona-New Mexico

Our annual meeting was held Feb 7-9, 2008 in Prescott, Arizona. Our chapter newsletter is produced three times/year and has improved significantly over the past two years under the leadership of student Anne Kretschmann. Two awards were presented at the chapter meeting, one to a "Professional", Rob Clarkson a highly respected fisheries biologist who currently works with the Bureau of Reclamation, and our Conservationist of the Year award went to a local ranching family, the Austins, who have provided great support on their lands for native fish introductions and protection in southern Arizona. Two of three student sub-chapters presented reports at the Business Meeting, Arizona State University and New Mexico State University. The ASU sub-chapter is part of a student organization that includes The Wildlife Society and Society of Range Management under a faculty advisor. Their activities included monthly business meetings, a hunting and fishing appreciation workshop hosted by AGFD, creating a recycling program on the ASU East Campus, adoption of a wildlife camera from the Sky Island Alliance, several fund-raising events and help with Canyon Lake fish habitat construction. They have 8 paying members and is the newest student sub-chapter.

NMSU's activities included two outreach programs, one with a sportsman's group to create fish habitat, and one with a fish hatchery and the BLM. They have 20 paying members at NMSU.

California-Nevada Chapter

- **Hosted 137th Annual Meeting (Sept. 3-6, 2007, San Francisco)**
- **Providing 2-day CE course on Endangered Species Act Regulations**
- **Provided student travel assistance to Hawaii, Humboldt, and Sac-Davis sub-units**

Colorado-Wyoming Chapter

- The Chapter and subunits are actively updating the Chapter website to promote the Chapter and Western Division activities.
- The Chapter has provided members with two editions of The Angler, our electronic newsletter. The newsletter contains a President's column, ExCom meeting minutes, information about past or upcoming meetings, committee updates, calls for papers, scholarship applications, and general information of interest to membership
- The Continuing Education Committee completed a web-based survey to generate potential topics of interest for the upcoming 2007 Annual Chapter Meeting.
- The Chapter's Archivist is arranging and organizing the Chapter archives to be stored in a permanent location (most likely at the DC Booth Library in Spearfish, SD).
- The Chapter is sponsoring an art contest for members to develop a logo representing the plenary theme for the 2008 Annual Chapter Meeting.
- The Best Paper/Poster and Awards Committees will recognize the accomplishments of Chapter members at the 2008 Annual Chapter Meeting.
- The Membership Committee is arranging a Trade Show with vendors at the 2008 Annual Chapter Meeting.

- The Membership Committee will provide a Membership Services booth at the 2008 Annual Chapter Meeting; information will be provided on Professional certification for members, the Hutton Program, AFS membership, and AFS catalogs and brochures.
- A job board for those seeking employment and those seeking employees will be provided at the 2008 Annual Chapter Meeting.
- The Chapter supports the professional development of college students interested in pursuing careers in fisheries and aquatics. Student representative from Colorado State University and the University of Wyoming serve as members of the Chapter's Executive Committee, participating in monthly conference calls, meetings, and helping to conduct the Chapter's annual meeting. The Chapter has a student liaison who is regularly communicates with both student subunits with concerns and ideas.
- The Chapter President has met with the Colorado State University subunit and plans to meet with the University of Wyoming subunit to encourage student involvement in Chapter activities, strengthen ties between the Chapter and the subunits, and recruit volunteers to assist with the upcoming annual meeting.
- The Chapter supported the CSU and UW Student Subunits financially with annual donations (\$250 per subunit).
- The Chapter offers six student scholarships that pay for a student's parent society membership for a year.
- The Chapter will pay for two rooms for students to stay during the annual meeting. Also, the Chapter will waive student registration for students who assist with annual meeting functions (audio-visual, registration, raffle, socials, etc.). The Student Mentoring social is arranged by the student subunits and provides an excellent venue for students to interact with fisheries professionals and learn about job prospects, internships, and build networking relationships.
- The Program Committee is arranging a plenary session at the Chapter's annual meeting titled: "From Buckets to Bilge Pumps: Addressing the Spread of Exotic Fish and Organisms in Western Watersheds." Plenary speakers include Dr. Theo Light (Shippensburg University, PA) and Dr. Frank Rahel, (University of Wyoming, WY). In order to address this issue most effectively, law enforcement personnel from CO and WY were invited to attend the annual meeting at no charge.
- The Continuing Education Committee will be providing two concurrent Continuing Education workshops at the 2008 Annual Chapter Meeting. The first workshop will focus on digital photography techniques that are applicable to aquatic biologists. The morning session of this workshop will be in a classroom, followed by field demonstrations of various techniques at a nearby site in the afternoon. Part I of an Aquatic Nuisance Species workshop will cover proper disinfection techniques for boats and sampling gears to prevent the spread of aquatic nuisance species. Part II of the ANS workshop will be in a classroom format and focus on potential ANS threats and management strategies. To supplement lecture discussions, specimens will be available to provide identification training.

- The Membership Committee has been working to update all Chapter members' contact information. The membership for the Chapter stands at 250 members for the year ending 2007.
- The Chapter Procedures document is completed and posted on the Chapter website.
- The Fundraising Committee has actively sought and received \$2,750 to assist with expenses from the 2008 Annual Chapter Meeting.
- The Chapter completed and filed taxes for tax year 2006-2007.
- The Chapter provides a representative that serves as Chair to the Western Division Committee for Grants Funding and Investment.
- The Chapter provides one Chapter representative as a Co-Chair to the Western Division Western Native Fishes Committee.

Oregon Chapter

- Oregon Chapter is organizing, coordinating, and co-hosting the Western Division Annual meeting, scheduled for May 4-9, 2008. Five workshops, numerous student activities, evening social events, and close to 600 technical papers/posters are in development.
- The chapter website was completely reorganized and updated, bringing more timely information on Chapter activities, issues, and priorities.
- Oregon Chapter has fully embraced electronic transmittal of quarterly newsletters (Piscatorial Press) and regular membership updates via listserv.

Idaho Chapter

- 2008 annual chapter meeting held in Post Falls February 6-8
 - Approximately 230 people (including 40 students) attended
 - Plenary session "Impacts of climate change on Idaho's fishery resources"
 - 47 contributed papers in addition to plenary session papers
 - 12 posters
 - Held committee meetings
 - Held a student-professional mixer
 - Held business luncheon
 - Held social-fundraiser
 - Held EXCOM meetings prior to and after the meeting
 - Session celebrating the 30th Anniversary of the Palouse Unit
- Awards
 - Issued several awards to Chapter members at the annual meeting including a Lifetime Achievement award to Dr. Bruce Rieman
- Passage Workshop held February 5 in Post Falls
 - Approximately 100 people attended including fish biologists, hydrologists, and engineers
- Media Workshop held February 5 in Post Falls
 - Approximately 10 people attended
- Scholarships
 - Awarded three undergraduate scholarships
 - Awarded two graduate scholarships
- Student Units
 - Continued support of the Palouse and Portneuf student units
- Mentoring

- Added a new section to our Chapter webpage designed to facilitate mentoring opportunities between students and professionals by matching students and professionals through volunteer opportunities. The webpage allows professionals to advertise volunteer opportunities and students to select volunteer opportunities. (see <http://www.idahoafs.org/>)
- Cross Training
 - Established a cross training relationship with the Mexico Chapter. Idaho has invited the President of the Mexico Chapter to attend 2009 Idaho Chapter meeting. The Idaho Chapter will cover the cost. The Mexico Chapter President will present a paper at the Idaho Chapter meeting on fish issues in Mexico. In turn, Idaho President will attend a meeting of the Mexico Chapter in the future and do the same thing. Jim Capurso was designated as the Idaho Chapter Ambassador to the Mexico Chapter.
- Newsletter
 - Issued two Chapter newsletters
- Continued efforts to empower and strengthen committees
- 2009 Annual Meeting
 - The 2009 annual meeting will be held March 4-6, 2009 in Boise, Idaho at the Boise DoubleTree Riverside. Workshops will be held on March 3.

North Pacific International Chapter

The 2008 AGM is NPIC's single largest member service. Over 90 talks and 20 posters are planned. The AGM will also include four workshops for members' benefit, including a session on AFS certification. Over the past year, great strides have been made on improving and updating the [Chapter web site](#).

Utah Chapter

The annual meeting is scheduled for Feb 25-27 in Moab. The meeting theme is "Aquatic Resource Management/ Stewardship Changes over Time". A plenary panel will discuss the 'past, present, and future of fisheries'. A continuing education course on Statistics, coordinated by the Utah State Student Subunit, will also be offered. The Chapter website and newsletter (see fisheries.org/units/Bonneville/index.htm) provide up to date information on other chapter activities. Current focus for the Chapter this year is on:

- 1) reaching out to the public and especially the youth around us and encouraging them to become involved in managing their aquatic resources;
- 2) to develop united approaches between the various institutions that we work for to benefit the aquatic resources of Utah, and
- 3) to deal with historical material (archives). We hope to get this summarized and condensed this year.

WD Electronic Communications and Newsletter Committees

Newsletter—The Tributary was published in January 2007, August 2007, November 2007 and February 2008 thanks to the efforts of our editor Kajsa Stromberg. The next issue is planned for

June 2008. Newsletters are now exclusively available online and are not distributed on paper. They are posted on the Western Division website and members are notified via email.

Website — Our webmaster Paige Ackerman has done an excellent job keeping up with updates to the web, with active input from the President and others to keep the pages current and relevant.

List-Serve Coordination— The committee is drafting formal guidelines for electronic communication within the Division to limit spam and advertising. The list-serve and newsletter have previously restricted listings to those directly related to WDAFS business, news and meetings. Dave Lentz drafted the criteria, which are being circulated for comment and subsequent approval and publication by ExCom.

WD Time and Place Committee

We are still trying to find a location for the 2010 annual meeting. Idaho Chapter and Utah Chapter are both being approached. Both chapters will address the issue at upcoming general or ExCom meetings.

V. Member Services

Goal MS6: Financial Security

Grants Funding and Investment Committee

The Division continues to administer a Grants Funding and Investment program.

Bill Bradshaw (Colorado/Wyoming) chairs the committee with Don MacDonald (NPIC), Henry Booke (Oregon), and Eric Knudsen (NPIC) actively serving.

The Colorado-Wyoming and Arizona-New Mexico Chapters have invested in the Investment Fund which now exceeds the \$100,000 target established when the Grants Funding and Investment Committee was formed in 2000.

All approved procedures governing the Grants Funding and Investments committee and its sub committees were submitted for posting on the Western Division website.

Immediate needs include securing additional funds, review of the grants submission and approval process, and formalizing procedures for using Investment Fund earned interest while maintaining growth.

Recommendations:

- 1) Continue using approved Division procedures that ensure continued growth of the Grants Fund.
- 2) Add at least one active member to the Committee.
- 3) Formalize procedures for using Grants Fund interest while maintaining growth.
- 4) Develop and pursue additional fund raising for the Investment Fund.
- 5) Consider merging the WD Investment Fund with the Parent Society as appropriate.