



The Tributary



A Newsletter of the Western Division, American Fisheries Society

Volume 27, No. 2, July 2003

“Native Fish Management: Policies, Politics and Practicalities”

**2004 Annual Meeting of the Western
Division of the American Fisheries
Society & Colorado/Wyoming &
Bonneville Chapters & The Whirling
Disease Foundation**

--First Call for Papers--

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society will be held in sunny Salt Lake City, Utah. The meeting will be held at the Little America and Grand America Hotels from Sunday, February 29 through Thursday, March 4, 2004. The conference, entitled “Native Fish Management: Policies, Politics and Practicalities” is being co-hosted by the Colorado/Wyoming and Bonneville Chapters. The 10th Annual Whirling Disease Symposium will also be held in conjunction with the meeting.

Salt Lake City is an ideal location for an inland meeting between two annual meetings in coastal/marine areas; San Diego (2003) and Anchorage (2005). There are 14 ski resorts within a 1-hour drive (www.skiutah.com) and February/March is ski season! So, make plans now to attend this meeting and bring the family. The meeting will be held at the Little America and Grand America Hotels, which are right across the street from one another in downtown Salt Lake City.

A half-day, theme related, plenary session will launch the meeting. Symposia and contributed papers

will follow over the next 2 ½ days. The Program Committee will provide participants an opportunity to share information on a broad range of topics of interest to members of the Western Division.

The following Symposia Sessions are currently being organized for the meeting:

Adaptive Management: In Practice and in Theory. Greg Servheen, gserveen@idfg.state.id.us (208-334-3180). Connecting the theory of Adaptive Management to practical day-to-day needs of resource management is the focus of this symposium. Topics will include fish and wildlife managers discussing the use of learning or feedback to determine the effects of management and environmental changes on resources; discussion of how planning may incorporate adaptive management principals to help develop operational goals and objectives; how hydropower relicensing can and is using an adaptive approach to long term and large scale experimentation on river systems; the role and importance of modeling and prediction in adaptive management; and the limits that adaptive management theory finds in everyday fish and wildlife resource management.

Aquaculture. Joe Valentine, joevalentine@utah.gov (801-538-4808) and Steve Sharon, steve.sharon@wgf.state.wy.us (307-473-3407). The Program Committee will attempt to arrange for approximately 2 full days of papers related to aquaculture. Papers concerning the culture of native aquatic species are welcome. We also would like to have papers and/or posters on the culture of other aquatic species, coldwater, coolwater or

warmwater varieties. These may include, but are not limited to topics such as, bioengineering, culture techniques and methods, feeding and nutrition, recirculation and water treatment systems, fish health and disease treatments, etc. If you are interested in presenting a paper or if you have any questions about the session, please contact Joe or Steve.

Coastal Cutthroat Trout. Bob Gresswell, Robert_gresswell@usgs.gov (541-750-7410).

Food Webs and Fish Carrying Capacity. Mark Wipfli, mwipfli@fs.fed.us (509-662-4315 ext. 224). Although much is known about the physical characteristics that regulate fish communities (large wood, sediment), relatively little is known about the importance of food and the processes that influence food resources for fishes. Some evidence suggests that food plays a key role in regulating fish communities. This symposium aims to assemble researchers in the field of fish food webs, feeding ecology and behavior, foraging theory, and carrying capacity in western North America, and will include topics such as factors affecting food abundance for fishes in freshwater food webs, interactions among multiple trophic levels that ultimately affect fishes, and efforts to determine fish carrying capacities in freshwater ecosystems. Examples of some specific topics might include the role of riparian vegetation and management on terrestrial and aquatic food resources, influence of marine subsidies, and the importance of hyporheic processes. Presentations on determining carrying capacities in aquatic ecosystems and the relative roles of food and physical habitat in regulating fish communities will also be a key part of this special session, as well as the relationship of this research to establishing restoration goals for depleted populations or for setting expectations and harvest rates for healthy populations.

(continued on page 8)

The Tributary is distributed to 3,600 WDAFS members and exists as a forum to present fisheries-related information. The editor is Mary Whalen. If you have information you would like to have included in **The Tributary**, please contact us at;

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Submissions for the next issue of The Tributary are due by September 30, 2003.

WDAFS on the web: <http://www.fisheries.org/wd/>

President's Message - Together, We're Making a Difference

To say that this year has been an understatement. After assuming office in September, the first order of business for the Western Division (WDAFS) Executive Committee (ExCom) was to develop a Program of Work for 2002-2003. An overview of the



Program of Work that was adopted by ExCom was presented in my first President's Message in the October, 2002 Tributary. Now, some ten months later, I thought it would be interesting to

reflect a bit on what we have accomplished together in the areas of member services, information transfer and outreach, and aquatic stewardship.

First, we should all be very proud of the progress that we've made in terms of delivering excellent services to our members (i.e., *Membership Services*). Importantly, we have provided our members with numerous opportunities for professional development, including an excellent Leadership Training course (coordinated by Carl Burger) and three continuing education courses that were offered in conjunction with our 2003 Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA. Our newly formed Continuing Education Committee will continue to ensure that our members are provided with ongoing access to continuing education that is sufficient to satisfy the demands for certification and other needs.

The WDAFS, in partnership with the California-Nevada Chapter-AFS, convened a superb annual meeting in April that provided abundant opportunities for sharing science-based information and honing our skills as presenters. The Program Committee, which was headed by Mark Brouder and Tom McMahon, delivered a high quality program that included nearly 40 technical sessions and symposia, as well as nearly 350 oral and poster presentations. In addition to the excellent program, Dave Manning, Chuck Knutson, and the Arrangements Committee created an outstanding social agenda that all participants will remember for years to come. Overall, the meeting was attended by more than 500 participants, making it one of the most successful meetings that we've had in recent years.

In terms of *Information Transfer and Outreach*, the WDAFS has made great strides this year. More specifically, communications with our members and information exchange have been greatly enhanced through the application of electronic information services and other means. Under the expert leadership of Mary Whalen, the Newsletter Committee delivered three outstanding issues of the Tributary this year. In addition, Mary is currently redesigning our website to better facilitate access to key information on

Division affairs. Mary's Electronic Communications Committee is establishing procedures to enable online voting, which should dramatically improve voter turnout. Finally, Dave Lentz has developed the WDAFS List Server into a tool that now enables us to disseminate important information to our members on a real-time basis.

Increasing the influence of the WDAFS on public policy decisions will help to ensure that aquatic resources are managed in a manner that assures their long-term sustainability. With this goal in mind, the WDAFS has engaged in a number of outreach activities this year. First, George Guillen and the Klamath River Basin Committee reviewed and provided comments on the NRC report on water management in the Klamath River Basin. We hope that this input will help shape management decisions in the basin in the future and, thereby, improve the prospects for transitioning toward ecosystem-based management in the future. In addition, Bill Bradshaw's Coal-Bed Methane Sub-Committee reviewed and provided comments on the environmental impact statement on the effects of coal-bed methane development in the Powder River Basin. The development of a policy statement on coal bed methane development in western North America was also initiated by the sub-committee. It is hoped that these comments will help to rationalize the development of coal-bed methane deposits in the Powder River Basin and elsewhere in the west. Selected members of Shelley Spalding's Bull Trout Committee also provided the USFWS with expert advice on bull trout habitat requirements and, in so doing, are likely to influence the way in which these habitats are managed in the future.

Our ability to influence public policy will also be enhanced by several works in progress. For example, Jim Whelan's Fire Suppression Sub-Committee has initiated a review of the effects of fire suppression activities on aquatic resources and, upon completion, will provide a series of practical recommendations for reducing the potential for such impacts in the future. Furthermore, Tony Faast convened a workshop on Science in the Public Policy Arena in conjunction with the 2003 Annual Meeting. The information that was shared at the workshop will enable participants to become more effective advocates for the resource and, in so doing, improve the prospects for fisheries sustainability. Finally, WDAFS is developing a task force to conduct an independent peer review of the Upper Basin Pallid Sturgeon Recovery Program. The recommendations that emerge from this effort will help to improve the efficacy of the program and its impact on pallid sturgeon management.

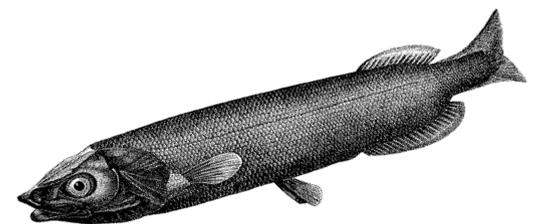
The WDAFS is committed to promoting the sustainability and sound stewardship of fisheries resources and aquatic ecosystems in western North America. That is, to ensure that decisions regarding the management of aquatic resources are consistent with the principals of ecosystem-based management and assure their long-term viability and productivity.

The Division has made substantial progress on Aquatic Stewardship initiatives in the past year. For example, the book on Fisheries Sustainability in North America is nearing completion, as is the documentary film on inland cutthroat trout (thanks to the hard work of Eric Knudsen and Yvonne Muirhead, and Ken McDonald and Bruce May, respectively). Importantly, a review of the status of western native fish populations has been initiated (under the leadership of Jim Tilmant and Lynn Starnes) and will, upon completion, represent a major contribution to fisheries management in the west. The Division also made a series of grants to very worthy aquatic stewardship projects, including to the World Fisheries Congress, to a book on career planning for aquatic resource professionals, and to a book on the Native Fishes of Idaho. Finally, Bob Gresswell's Eugene Maughn Scholarship Committee awarded three scholarships that will help the recipients achieve their educational goals and, hopefully, become rising stars in our profession.

While I am excited about the great success that we've had as a Division this year, I am even more excited about the strength, depth, and commitment of our members. I cannot say enough good things about everyone who contributed to our success this year. My experience with our officers (Eric Knudsen, Tom McMahon, Lynn Starnes, and Monica Hiner) and other members of the ExCom (Carol Kerkvliet, Mark Brouder, Don Wiley, Chuck Knutson, John Alves, Alan Friedlander, Ethan Bell, Steve Elle, Pat Byorth, Gary Birch, Mary Buckman, and Sean Meegan) has been incredibly rewarding, both personally and professionally. The response from the members to the various calls to action was particularly exciting; as a result, we have now populated our committees with over 300 members. And, the Committee Chairs and their members have done an outstanding job of meeting and exceeding my expectations on all fronts. As always, the chapters within the Division have been very impressive this year, with congratulations going to the Cal-Neva Chapter on being named Outstanding Chapter of the Year.

I treasure the friendships that I've made with all of you over the past year and am looking forward to continuing this journey with you in the coming year as I take on the role of Past President. Finally, I'd like to thank Eric Knudson, Bill Bradshaw, Monica Hiner, and Yvonne Muirhead for taking on so much of the load while I was under the weather. It means a great deal to me.

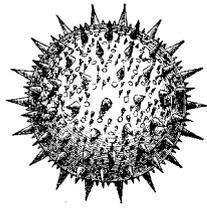
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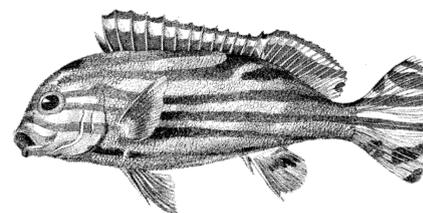


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Riparian and Watersheds Committee Dave Zafft 307-745-5180 david.zafft@wgf.state.wy.us	Sustainable Fisheries Committee Michael F. McGowan 415-338-3514 mcgowan@sfsu.edu	Time and Place Committee Dave Lentz 916-358-2831 Dlentz@dfg.ca.gov	Western Native Fishes Committee Lynn Starnes - Co-Chair 505-248-6620 Lynn_Starnes@fws.gov Jim Tilmant - Co-Chair 970-225-3547 jim_tilmant@nps.gov

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2003-2004 EXCOM Members (from left to right): Monica Hiner (secretary/treasurer), Joe Margraf (Vice President elect), Lynn Starnes (Vice President), Tom McMahon (President Elect) and Don MacDonald (President). Not pictured: Eric Knudsen (Past President)

Outstanding Student Presentations

For the third straight year, the American Institute of Fishery Research Biologists, Northern California District, organized the judging of student presentations and posters at the 2003 Western Division and Cal-Neva Chapter AFS Joint Annual Meeting, held at San Diego, California, April 14 through 17, 2003. Northern California District and Southern California District members joined forces to conduct the judging. A total of 29 student papers were in the running for cash prize awards, including \$100 for Best Student Presentation, \$75 for Best Student Presentation – Runner-up, and \$50 for Best Student Presentation – Third Place. Nineteen student posters were also evaluated by AIFRB members for Best Student Poster (\$100 cash prize), Best Student Poster – Runner-up (\$75), and Best Student Poster – Third Place (\$50). All winners will receive a joint certificate from all three organizations (Western Division AFS, CalNeva Chapter AFS, AIFRB). The 2003 winners are:

Best Student Presentation:

Kirsten Rowell, Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona, Tucson
From the River to the Sea: Evaluating the Influence of Colorado River Flow on the Corvina Fishery In Northern Gulf of California

Best Student Presentation - Runner-up:

Melissa Stevens, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Moss Landing Marine Laboratory
Age, Growth, and Radiometric Age Validation of Blackgill Rockfish

Best Student Presentation – Third Place:

Trip Armstrong, Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Laboratory, UC Davis
Assessing Self-Sustainability of Trout Populations in the Sierra Nevada Lakes Using Experimental Halt to Stocking

Best Student Poster:

W. Vandersteen Tymchuk, University of British Columbia
*Impact of Domestication on Growth and Behavior of Coho Salmon (*O. kisutch*)*

Best Student Poster – Runner-up:

Richard A. Bush, UC Davis (John Muir Institute of the Environment)

Estuaries: Migration Corridors or Essential Rearing Habitat for Steelhead?

Best Student Poster – Third Place:

Jeffrey E. Smiley, University of San Diego
*The Acute Effects of Gas Saturation on Cultured Juvenile White Seabass (*A. nobilis*) in the Laboratory*

Congratulations to the winners and a heartfelt thanks to the judges who participated in the student

evaluations during the three days of meetings. Special thanks to John Kleinfelter (Poster Session Chair), Mark Brouder (Program Committee Chair), Brenda Brouder (Program and Abstracts), and Ray Wilson (Director - AIFRB Southern California District) for their tireless efforts. Finally, thanks go to the AFS Cal-Neva Chapter, and to the Western Division for providing funds for the student awards.

Tom Keegan

Director - AIFRB Northern California District

2003 Western Division Chapter Meetings

The following are dates, locations and contact information for Chapter Meetings in 2003. Chapter web sites are in italics.

Alaska

3-6 November, Fairbanks, AK,
Tim Joyce (907) 424-4747
<http://www.fisheries.org/afs-ak/>

Arizona - New Mexico

6-8 February, Gallup, NM,
<http://leopold.nmsu.edu/nmcws/Default.htm>
<http://www.fisheries.org/aznm/>

Bonneville

4-6 March, Grand Junction, CO,
Eric Wagner, (435) 752-1066
<http://www.fisheries.org/bonneville/>

California - Nevada

14-17 April, San Diego, CA,
David Manning, (707) 547-1988
<http://www.afs-calneva.org/>

Colorado - Wyoming

4-6 March, Grand Junction, CO,
Eric Wagner, (435) 752-1066
<http://www.fisheries.org/co-wy/>

Hawaii

25 January, Maui, HI,
Dwayne Meadows (808) 879-4921
<http://home.hawaii.rr.com/ikehara/afshi/index.html>

Humboldt

18-19 March, Arcata, CA,
Dana R. McCanne, (707) 825-7350 ext. 3
<http://www.northcoast.com/~humbafs/>

Idaho

27 February - 1 March, Boise, ID,
Vaughn L. Paragamian, vparagam@idfg.state.id.us
<http://www.fisheries.org/idaho/>

Montana

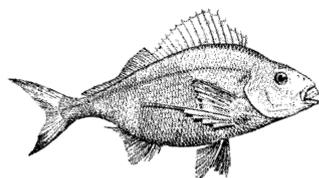
12-14 February, Great Falls, MT,
Steven Leathe, (409) 454-5855
<http://www.fisheries.org/AFSmontana/>

North Pacific International

(See article on page 15)
4-5 April, Vancouver, British Columbia
Westin Bayshore Hotel
<http://www.fisheries.org/npic/>

Oregon

26-28 February, Eugene, OR,
Dave Ward, (503) 657-2000 ext. 402
<http://oregonstate.edu/groups/orafs/index.html>



2003 Award of Excellence in Riparian Management

We would like to thank all of the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service offices that participated in the 2003 Western Division Riparian Challenge. Ten nominations were received from the BLM and 3 from the USFS. It was tough competition within each agency. When the judges were finished with their rankings, the 2003 winners of the Award of Excellence in Riparian Management were:

- ❖ The Lewistown Field Office of the BLM for their work in the upper Missouri River drainage of Montana.
- ❖ The Respect the River Team of the USFS for their work on the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest in Washington.

The Western Division is happy to recognize these offices for their efforts. Engraved award plaques were presented to representatives from both agencies that attended the Western Division Business Meeting on April 16 in San Diego, CA. Joe Frazier, Hydrologist for the Lewistown, Montana Field Office, accepted the BLM award for the Missouri River project. Jeff Uebel, Assistant Fisheries Program Leader for the Pacific Northwest Region of the Forest Service, accepted the award on behalf of the USFS Respect the River Team.

We hope you will take a look at the 2003 award winning entries. Complete copies of both are posted on the Western Division's web-site; www.fisheries.org/wd

The Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat Committee would like to continue to conduct the Riparian Challenge in the future in order to recognize the substantial efforts of the BLM and USFS to properly manage riparian areas. We hope you will support our efforts to increase the participation of these agencies in the future. If you are aware of an excellent riparian restoration project that is being conducted by the BLM or USFS, please encourage the district office to submit an entry for the 2004 Riparian Challenge.



Jeff Uebel of the USFS (left) and Joe Frazier of the BLM (right) accepted the 2003 Awards of Excellence in Riparian Management at the annual business meeting in San Diego.

Mexican Fisheries Professionals Active in WDAFS

The entire country of Mexico is within the geographic boundaries of the Western Division, American Fisheries Society (WDAFS) but, to date, there has been relatively minor AFS activity in Mexico. Over this past winter and spring, WDAFS members from Mexico, the U.S., and Canada have promoted AFS involvement with Mexican fisheries professionals through a variety of activities. Most of those efforts revolved around the WDAFS annual meeting in San Diego.

Meeting Travel Support

Recognizing that travel and registration costs may be a barrier to attendance by Mexican colleagues, WDAFS members created a special "travel scholarship" program to provide financial support. The purpose of the scholarship was to defray transportation, lodging, meals, and meeting registration costs. Applicants were expected to contribute to the costs and seek all possible funding sources before applying for WDAFS. A total of \$12,450 was raised to support Mexican travel to the meeting. Seven people applied for travel funding and \$6,869 was granted, leaving a balance of \$5,581 in the Mexican travel fund.

Symposia of Interest to Mexican Fisheries Interests

Among the many outstanding symposia at San Diego, the four below were of special interest for fisheries professionals working and studying in Mexico.

- Mexican Fisheries Overview
- Status and Trends of Aquatic Resources in the Sea of Cortez: Taking Stock Sixty Years After Ricketts and Steinbeck
- Biology and Management of Native and Exotic Freshwater Fish, Amphibians, and Aquatic Reptiles in Coastal Southern California and northern Baja California
- Biology, Ecology, and Management of Sharks of the Pacific Coast of Mexico and the United States.

International Reception

A special reception was held in San Diego to honor Mexican and other international colleagues, enhance new friendships, and renew old ones. The reception preceded the larger Welcoming Social and was open to all international registrants to enjoy refreshments with AFS leadership and their guests.

Discussions of Mexican AFS Chapter Formation

Following the Mexican Fisheries Symposium at San Diego, a lively discussion was held that focused on the merits of forming a Mexican AFS Chapter. During the discussion, an exciting opportunity to support and partner with our counterparts in Mexico through the creation of a Mexico AFS Chapter was identified. The overall goal is to create a unique trilateral partnership, via a new AFS chapter, where those interested in Mexican fisheries can

come together to exchange ideas and approaches to fisheries research and management, discuss current conditions of Mexican freshwater and saltwater fisheries, and collaborate on future action plans. The Mexico AFS Chapter can be designed to bridge political, cultural, and geographic barriers to enable discussion and reaction on environmental issues of common concern. Mexican fisheries leaders at the meeting agreed to organize a fisheries conference in 2004 or 2005, probably in LaPaz, one focus of which will be to try to formally organize the chapter. It was hoped that, once that step is accomplished, it could be a springboard for the new Mexican AFS chapter to host a WDAFS annual meeting, perhaps in Mazatlan or elsewhere on the Mexican mainland. Drs. Oscar Sosa-Nishizaki and Mauricio Ramirez have agreed to be the co-chairs for organizing the LaPaz meeting and spearheading the chapter formation.

New WDAFS Mexican Fisheries Committee

To continue emphasis on bridging the southern border, a new WDAFS Mexican Fisheries Committee was recently created and appointed by President MacDonald. Several Committee members have drafted the interim Mission statement below. Members will continue to pursue the committee charge and will work together to modify the draft mission and charge.

Mission

Promote the conservation of Mexican fisheries resources and provide benefits to Mexican fisheries professionals by encouraging Mexican membership in the American Fisheries Society and supporting the organization of a Mexican AFS Chapter.

Background

The entire country of Mexico is within the geographic boundaries of the Western Division, American Fisheries Society (WDAFS) but, to date, there has been relatively minor AFS activity in Mexico. Over the years, several strategic meetings have indicated a strong interest by Mexican fisheries professionals to increase their opportunities by participating with AFS. The overall goal is to create a unique partnership where those interested in Mexican fisheries can come together to exchange ideas and approaches to fisheries research and management, discuss current conditions of Mexican freshwater and saltwater fisheries, and collaborate on future action plans. Through AFS, fisheries professionals can bridge political, cultural, and geographic barriers to enable discussion and reaction on scientific, management, and environmental issues of common concern.

Committee Charge

Coordinate among AFS members and chapters to:

- Increase communication of fisheries interests both within Mexico and between Mexican and international professionals.
- Investigate the most promising approaches for maintaining membership in AFS by Mexican fisheries professionals and students.
- Assist organization and promotion of AFS-sponsored professional fisheries meetings in Mexico.
- Support the formation of Mexican AFS

chapter(s).

- Help identify Mexican fisheries conservation issues of concern to AFS.

If you are interested in serving on the Mexican Fisheries Committee, please contact Eric Knudsen at eric_knudsen@usgs.gov.

2003 Annual Meeting Wrap-up

Western Division of AFS and the California/Nevada Chapter "Productive Pacific Ecosystems" - Lake, Stream, Estuarine, and Marine Environments From Alaska to Baja Hyatt-Islandia Hotel in San Diego, California - April 14-17, 2003

The San Diego meeting location was originally selected to further encourage participation of Western Division members involved with marine, estuarine and Mexican fisheries issues. Fisheries subjects that affect many of our colleagues in the West were included in the stellar program, along with four Continuing Education classes. Contributed papers and symposia ranged from Baja, California to the Salton Sea to the Sea of Cortez to the Klamath River to the Grand Canyon; and from Pacific salmon to native inland fishes to sharks to largemouth bass. The program even included discussions on science in the public policy arena, western reservoir fish management, conflict resolution, and fire management effects on aquatic systems. This meeting was also the venue for the first annual meeting of CAERS (California Estuarine Research Society). To put it bluntly, if you were unable to attend, you missed out on one of the best overall WDAFS programs in recent memory, period!!

The meeting started off with an amazing Plenary Session; "Global Fisheries Sustainability: Challenges and Prospects for North American Fisheries and Beyond?" Our good friend and Past-President of the WDAFS and AFS Carl Burger kicked things off and was followed by Ambassador Gilbert Parent (Canada), Dr. Salvador Contreras-Balderas (Mexico) and Dr. William Hammond (Florida, USA). Their insights into worldwide and North American fisheries status, sustainability, paradigm shifts, changing political climate, and potential partnership developments were fascinating and informative. Just what we needed to kick off such an intense Annual Meeting in such a great location!!

But it wasn't all business...we found plenty of time to play and have fun. David Manning and the California-Nevada Chapter deserve special credit and recognition for their outstanding local arrangements and attention to detail. We had socials every night of this meeting and all were outstanding. We started off with the "Welcome to San Diego

(continued on page 6)

2003 Annual Meeting Wrap-up (continued)

Social” at the Islandia Restaurant overlooking Mission Bay, continued on Tuesday with the ever popular “Commercial Exhibits and Poster Social”, and finished off on Thursday night with the new “Outmigration Social”, where we were all treated to some very tasty sushi. However, the highlight social had to be Wednesday night’s dinner and reception at the Birch Aquarium - Scripps Institution. Music, seahorses, sharks, seabass, inter-tidal “beasties”, La Jolla Cove, and an amazing variety of food and drink made this one of the most memorable socials ever associated with an AFS meeting...EVER!!! Add to that the 2003 “Grunion Run”, Student Job Fair, WDAFS Raffle, Deep-Sea Fishing trip and dive trip to the Coronado Islands and you can see that “we played as hard as we worked” during this beautiful week in mid-April.

As Program Chair, I am very proud of the accomplishments and hard work of Team WDAFS2003. I especially wanted to thank Program Co-Chair Mark Brouder (AZ/NM Chapter) for his undying and upbeat efforts in putting together an amazing array of symposia and contributed paper sessions. Almost 500 people attended this four-day meeting in sunny (well, most of the time!!) San Diego, but we had room for more. And I’m positive about one thing...**each and every one of them had a great time!!!**

Tom McMahon (WDAFS President-Elect and Team WDAFS2003 Program Chair)



Eric Knudsen and Don MacDonald win AFS Awards for their hard work



Don MacDonald presents Eric Knudsen with the Past President's plaque.



Ambassador Gilbert Parent accepts the Robert L. Borovicka Conservation Achievement Award for R. Hon. Jean Chretien.



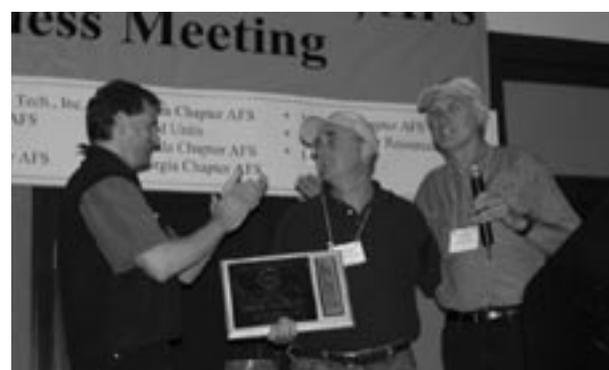
Dr. Oscar Sosa-Nishizaki (right) receives the Award of Excellence from David Holts(left)



Dr. Gary Sakagawa (right) receives the Award of Excellence from David Holts(left)



Dave Zafft receives the Award of Special Recognition from Don MacDonald and Eric Knudsen.



Bill Bradshaw (center) receives the Award of Merit from Don MacDonald (left) and Eric Knudsen (right)



Dr. Salvador Contreras-Balderas talks about "Status and Opportunities for Sustainable Fisheries in Mexico"



Tom McMahon congratulates Team WDAFS2003 on their Certificates of Appreciation Awards for their work on the Program and/or Local Arrangement committees.



Dave Zafft (left) gives the Riparian Challenge Award to Joe Frazier from BLM..



Dave Manning (center) receives the Award of Special Recognition from Don MacDonal (left) and Eric Knudsen (right)



WDAFS Raffle Booth with Jim Warnecke and Dana Bayer



John Wenburg and Jennifer Nielsen network with other fisheries scientists at the poster session



Tricia Parker and Tom McMahon enjoying a Social after a day of talks



Dr. Bill Hammond gives an entertaining discussion on "Fishing the Edges of the Turning Tide to Develop Partnerships that Protect World Fisheries in a Period of Rapid Global Change"



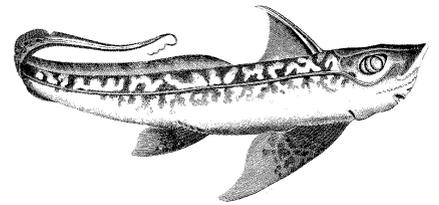
Tom McMahon orates at the Plenary Session. At the head table (from left to right): Fred Harris (AFS President), Chuck Knutson (Cal/Neva Chapter President), Don MacDonal (WDAFS President), Dr. Salvador Contreras-Balderas, Ambassador Gilbert Parent, Carl Burger, and Dr. Bill Hammond.



Churchill Grimes gives closing remarks at the Plenary Session



Trade Show participants from Biomark.



Reception at Scripps Birch Aquarium



Reception Dinner at Scripps Birch Aquarium 7

2004 Annual Meeting
in Salt Lake City -
"Native Fish Management:
Policies, Politics and Practicalities"
(continued)

Impacts of Fire Management on Fisheries. Amy Unthank, aunthank@fs.fed.us (505-842-3263).

Instream Flows: Scientific Applications, Legal Considerations and Public Involvement. Tom Annear, tom.annear@wgf.state.wy.us (307-777-4555). Papers are sought that deal with the full range of instream flow quantification or administration. Topics on quantification may focus on hydrologic, biologic, geomorphic, water quality or connectivity components of the science, either singly or in combination. Topics on administration may address water laws and/or the effectiveness of state or federal instream flow laws. Public involvement papers could include examples of ways to involve the public to effectively apply instream flow recommendations, implement laws or develop new laws or policies.

Livestock Grazing Strategies for Healthy Aquatic Ecosystems. Don Wiley, donwiley@utah.gov, (801-491-5651). It is well documented that poor livestock grazing management can have negative impacts to aquatic ecosystems. However, recent studies regarding properly managed grazing strategies can be compatible with healthy aquatic ecosystems. In addition, aquatic habitat improvement projects have been implemented where streams have been severely degraded. Several techniques have been used to improve the overall health of aquatic ecosystems. The purpose of this symposium is to present new ideas and successful techniques that have been used across the West to improve aquatic resources. This symposium includes presentations on several topics, such as (1) how livestock grazing interacts with the hydrology and ecology of the drainage and riparian area, (2) grazing management strategies that improve the health of aquatic ecosystems and (3) recent aquatic habitat improvement projects that have improved the overall health of the riparian area, water quality, fisheries, etc. The symposium will be of interest to those engaged in management of fisheries and aquatic resources where livestock grazing has occurred or is occurring. Our ability to improve aquatic ecosystems will improve as more information is gained and shared.

Management of Resident Fish in the Columbia River Basin. David Ward, david.l.ward@state.or.us (503-657-2000 ext.402). The session will include an overview of the resident fish program, a series of technical talks concerning research on and management of resident fish such as white sturgeon, burbot, cutthroat trout and bull trout, and a panel discussion on the policies, politics and practicalities of managing resident fish in the Columbia River basin. Speakers and panelists will include state, federal, and tribal biologists from Montana, Idaho, Washington, and Oregon.

Research and Management of Western Native Inland Trout. Kevin Meyer, kmeyer@idfg.state.id.us (208-465-8404). Much

work is being performed in the western North America to preserve, protect, and manage native trout of the genus *Oncorhynchus*, and results obtained in one area or state, or with an individual species, can have broader applicability. This session is an effort to bring together current research and management of western native inland trout, including redband trout, golden trout, cutthroat trout, Gila trout, apache trout, etc. Topics will include a broad array of work on current status and management, genetics, conservation biology, extinction risk analysis, control of non-native salmonids, and hopefully a variety of other topics. It is hoped that such a session will generate some controversy, broaden our perspectives, and spur new avenues of investigation.

Reservoir Sampling and Management Strategies. Scott Gangl, scott.gangl@wgf.state.wy.us (307-473-3415). This session is being organized to provide an environment for those who work on "flat water." Possible topics may include any related to the sampling and management of lakes and reservoirs, such as innovative sampling techniques, predator-prey interactions, regulations, bioenergetics, population dynamics, hydroacoustics, etc.

Science in the Public Arena: The How and Why of Scientific Decision-Making. Tony Fasst, tony_fasst@rlfws.gov (503-231-6233). A facilitated group discussion moderated by Western Division President Don MacDonald will focus on an update of the AFS Best Science effort. As modeled at last year's WDAFS session, plenary speakers, parent society officers, and the audience will address issues related to the use of science and the decisions made as a result. Join us for a lively, often spirited, discussion on a topic of interest to all fishery scientists!

Subbasin Watershed Planning. Don MacDonald, ssf@island.net (250-729-9623).

Tribal Programs to Protect Native Fish Populations. Ron Skates, ron_skates@fws.gov (406-585-9010).

Threats to Western Waters. Bob Pittman, bob_pittman@fws.gov, (505-248-6865 or 505-248-6471). Many aquatic invasive species threaten to spread to western waters or may already be established. The impact of invasive species on recreation, native fishes, habitats, management agencies, municipalities and local economies is an important concern for aquatic resource managers. The linkages between pathways for species spread, management response and prevention measures and engaging stakeholders with opposing views are complex and often not well defined. Coordination across management responsibilities can improve effectiveness of agency and stakeholder response to aquatic invasive species. This symposium will describe aquatic invasive species in the west, invasive species at the door, pathways for spread, impacts to people and stakeholders, ways to prevent spread or introductions and developing coordinated responses. Some examples of cooperative efforts to address these threats include the Western Regional Panel of the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force (answest.fws.gov) and the 100th Meridian Initiative (www.100thMeridian.org) with increased focus on

the threat of zebra mussel spread caused by Lewis & Clark re-enactment participants.

Western Native Fishes. Jim Tilmant, jim_tilmant@nps.gov (970-225-3547) and Mark Brouder, mark_brouder@fws.gov (928-475-2554). This symposium will be part of the Western Division's Status of Western Native Fishes Project. The Division's Native Fishes Committee has undertaken a project to summarize the scientific information available on the current status of western native fishes and to publish a status report. The committee hopes that this symposium will encourage the presentation of new and recent information concerning the status of western native species. All members are encouraged to consider giving a paper on any work that they may have done on native species, although papers on occurrence, distribution, status, or taxonomy will receive preference. Contributors will have the opportunity to have their papers published in the *Proceedings of the Western Native Fishes Symposium*. Papers are to be submitted at the time of the presentation if they are to be published in the proceedings.

Whirling Disease. Dave Kumlien, whirling2@mcn.net (406-585-0860). The 10th Annual Whirling Disease Symposium will be held in conjunction with the Salt Lake City meeting. The goal of the session is to provide a forum in which whirling disease researchers and fisheries managers can come together to share information and experiences related to the disease. Examples of topics include: *Myxobolus cerebralis* infection in both the salmonid and oligochaete hosts, biology of the parasite, effects of ecological factors on disease severity, diagnostic methods and control options. A separate proceedings of extended abstracts will be produced for this symposium. Persons wishing to participate in this symposium should contact the Whirling Disease Foundation directly (whirling3@mcn.net).

If you are interested in assisting with the organization of one of these sessions or contributing a paper, please contact the session chair listed above and submit an abstract as described below.

Additional Symposia. Proposals for additional symposia sessions are also encouraged. Proposals should be related to the conference theme or otherwise of particular interest to Division members. Symposia organizers are responsible for recruiting speakers, soliciting abstracts and submitting speaker's abstracts to the Program Committee Chair. Final deadline for symposia proposals is October 1, 2002. Symposia proposals must include the following:

1. A brief but descriptive title.
2. Names, addresses, telephone and FAX numbers, and e-mail addresses for all organizers. Primary contact person responsible for organization must be clearly identified.
3. A brief (300 words or less) description of the topic and objective of the symposium.
4. Description of the proposed format; e.g., full-day session with 15 speakers followed by a 2-hr panel discussion.
5. An identified moderator.

6. A list of anticipated audiovisual requirements and other facility requirements (special seating arrangements, panelist accommodations).

Format for Submitting Symposia Presentations, Contributed Papers or Posters

Contributed papers and symposia presentations should be prepared as MS Word or WordPerfect files in 12 point, Times New Roman font, left justified only, and include all of the following:

1. A brief but descriptive title.
2. A list of all authors, their addresses, telephone and FAX numbers, and e-mail addresses. Presenters must be clearly identified.
3. An abstract of 200 words or less. Although a brief (< 200 word) abstract must be submitted for the bound program, extended abstracts and papers will also be accepted. These will be provided to all meeting participants on a CD.
4. If submitting a presentation, indicate the symposia session you would like to contribute to or indicate "Contributed paper".
5. Clear indication of preference for either an oral or poster presentation. For an oral presentation, indicate the presentation type – either 2x2 slides or computer presentation using an LCD projector and PowerPoint.
6. Clear indication if presenter is a student (therefore eligible for Best Student Paper Awards).

Abstract Example

Please follow this format for abstract submission:

Title: Remnant populations of Yellowstone cutthroat trout in streams of the Bighorn National Forest, Wyoming.

Authors: W.H. Bradshaw-Presenter, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, P.O. Box 6249, Sheridan, WY, 82801, 307-672-7418 (W), 307-672-0594 (F), bill.bradshaw@wgf.state.wy.us; K.G. Gelwicks, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, 528 S. Adams St., Laramie, WY, 82070, 307-745-5180 (W), 307-745-8720 (F), Kevin.gelwicks@wgf.state.wy.us.

Abstract: This statement will be used to evaluate and prioritize selections for inclusion in the 2004 program. Problem statement, issue significance, objectives, findings, and conclusions, should be relayed in 200 words or less.

Session: Western Native Fishes or Western Inland Cutthroat Trout.

Preference: Oral presentation preferred with slides/poster session acceptable.

Student: No.

All contributions, including proposals for symposia, must be submitted electronically in either of two ways:

1. E-mail to david.zafft@wgf.state.wy.us with symposia proposal, symposia or contributed paper/poster abstract attached as an MS Word or WordPerfect file.

2. Submit on a 3.5 in diskette formatted in either MS Word or WordPerfect to:
WDAFS Program Committee
David Zafft
528 S. Adams St.
Laramie, WY 82070

We will acknowledge receipt of your submission by e-mail and forward it to the appropriate symposia chair. For additional information, please contact Dave Zafft at (307) 745-5180 ext. 235 or david.zafft@wgf.state.wy.us.

Final deadline for submitting an abstract is January 10, 2004.

Information related to the 2004 annual meeting can be found on the Western Division web site at www.fisheries.org/wd/meet/2004/meet2004.htm. This site will be updated regularly and will soon contain information related to meeting registration, local accommodations, student information, continuing education, recreational activities, socials and special events, and the trade show. Check it out periodically and make plans to join us in Salt Lake City in 2004.

Western Native Fishes Symposium

The Native Fishes Committee of the Western Division announces that they will be sponsoring a "Native Western Fishes Symposium" during the annual Western Division's meeting in Salt Lake City. The Native Fishes Committee has undertaken a project to summarize the scientific information available on the current status of western native fishes and publish a status report. The committee hopes that this Symposium will encourage the presentation of new and recent information concerning the status of western native species. All members are encouraged to consider giving a paper on any work that they may have done on native species, although papers on the occurrence, distribution, status, or taxonomy will receive preference. Contributors will have the opportunity to have their papers published in a Proceedings of this Symposium by the AFS. Authors should follow general AFS guidelines for manuscript publications. These guidelines can be found at the AFS website "www.fisheries.org" (you will be expected to submit your paper at the time of presentation if you desire to have it published under the Proceedings). Abstracts of papers for consideration should be submitted in accordance with the meeting announcement (see enclosed) by 31 December, 2003 and clearly marked "For the Native Western Fishes Symposium."

2004 Western Division Annual Meeting Continuing Education UPDATE

Mark Novak

The recently revitalized Utah State University Student Subunit of the Bonneville Chapter will host your continuing education program at the 2004 Western Division annual meeting. We will be developing a web-based poll on the Western Division website with a variety of course topics for aquaculturists and managers. Look for the poll to be available towards mid-August, and vote your preference.

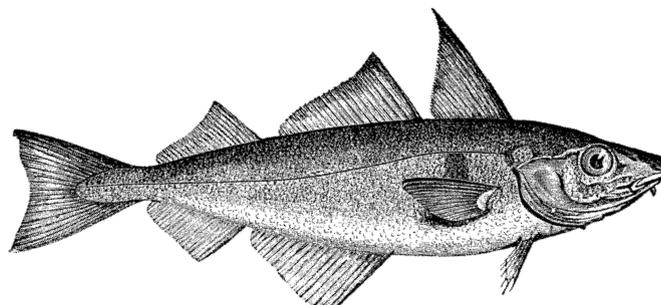
Current plans are to hold the ever popular AFS Leadership Training and Parliamentary Procedures on Sunday afternoon, with 4 additional courses to be held on Thursday. Topics being considered for the Thursday courses include:

- Aquatic Nuisance Species - Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HAACP)
- Preparation and Review of Professional Manuscripts
- Aquaculture (3 topics being considered): Health Condition Profile (necropsy-based fish health assessment); Advances in Aquaculture Technology/Recycle systems; Carrying capacity or Recycle Systems
- Western Water Law
- Conservation Genetics
- Population Viability Assessment
- Wetlands Delineation
- Grant Writing
- Stream Habitat Restoration
- Lake/Reservoir Habitat Restoration

Once our web-poll is up and running, you will find a course description, instructor names, and information on accruing Professional Development Quality Points (PDQP's) towards either achieving or maintaining Certified Fisheries Professional status.

Our intent is to give the membership the opportunity to emphasize continuing education topics at the 2004 annual meeting. Please take this opportunity to give us your input. Look for the continuing education course poll on the Western Division website in August.

Enjoy your summer, and be sure to Take A Kid Fishing!



6 NEW Releases from AFS:

Order your copies now on these important subjects:

Common and Scientific Names of Aquatic Invertebrates from the United States and Canada: Cnidaria and Ctenophora, Second Edition

Stephen D. Cairns et al.

The purpose of this volume (an update to the first edition and now with a CD-ROM) is to provide a checklist of species and to recommend selected common names for North American Cnidaria and Ctenophora, thereby achieving uniformity and avoiding confusion in the nomenclature of their common names. In addition to stabilizing common name nomenclature, this list will heighten public awareness of the diversity and wide distribution of cnidarians in North America, help identify taxonomic groups in need of systematic revision, and serve as a preliminary guide to the literature required for the identification of species.

This text lists more than 1,300 taxa of jellyfishes, hydroids, corals, anemones, and comb jellies and sets the standard for vernacular names of the more widely known species. This book also includes an index, extensive references and bibliography, and annotated changes from the first edition.

Special Publication 28

115 pp., + 32 color photographs, paper, March 2003

Book and companion CD:

Stock number 510.28P

ISBN 1-888569-39-5

List Price: \$39

AFS Member Price: \$27

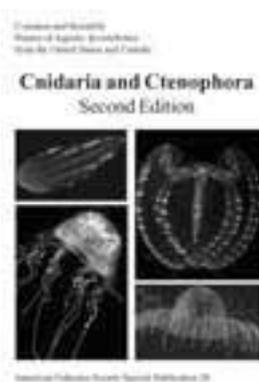
CD only:

Stock number 703.12

ISBN 1-888569-45-X

List Price: \$34

AFS Member Price: \$23



To order:

Online: www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi

Phone: (678) 366-1411, or Fax: (770) 442-9742

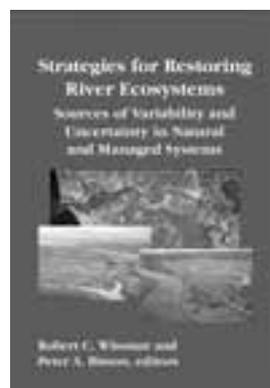
Email: afspubs@pbd.com

Strategies for Restoring River Ecosystems: Sources of Variability and Uncertainty in Natural and Managed Systems

Robert C. Wissmar and Peter A. Bisson, editors

Fisheries and natural resource managers and policymakers need more efficient procedures for identifying sources of variability in ecosystems (natural and managed) and assessing uncertainties of managing and making decisions for developing and implementing river restoration strategies. This book seeks to integrate perspectives on variability of physical and biological functions and concepts

of uncertainty in natural and managed systems, into strategies for renewing and conserving river ecosystems. The book explores approaches to understanding and communicating the processes contributing to the variability of different types of river systems, and to assessing major sources of uncertainty in natural and managed river ecosystems.



276 pp., paper

Stock Number: 550.44

List Price: \$69

AFS Member Price: \$48

ISBN 1-888569-46-8

To order:

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A Guide to Sampling Freshwater Mussel Populations

David L. Strayer and David R. Smith

Assessing mussel populations accurately and efficiently requires knowledge of both statistical principles and mussel biology. The purpose of this guide is to provide practical advice to environmental professionals to help them choose sound designs and methods for assessing freshwater mussel populations. The authors critically review sampling designs and methods that might be useful for sampling freshwater mussel populations and offer exemplary designs to meet several common objectives. The guide is largely compiled from published works, although some new, unpublished material is included, and brings together into a coherent, compact form the information needed to design mussel surveys and assessments.



AFS Monograph 8

110 pp., paper, June 2003

Stock Number: 520.08

List Price: \$55

AFS Member Price: \$38

ISBN 1-888569-50-6

To order:

Online: www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi

Phone: (678) 366-1411, or Fax: (770) 442-9742

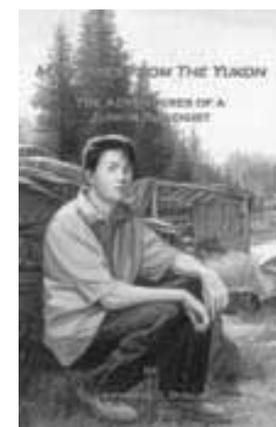
Email: afspubs@pbd.com

Mysteries from the Yukon: The Adventures of a Junior Biologist

Lawrence S. Buklis

Flowing through the heart of Alaska, the Yukon River is the scene for stories of mystery and adventure. Searching for lost gold from the Klondike, chasing thieves in a blinding snowstorm, plunging through raging waters on a hydropower project gone wrong-- three fast-paced adventures await readers in grades 5 through 9.

Mystery and adventure of another kind await as well. Have you ever dreamed of working in the great outdoors? To call it your job to work in places others can only hope to visit? Have you wanted to discover how natural systems work, to explore frontiers still to be found? Through the experiences of a fishery biologist and his family on the legendary Yukon, these adventures help feed the dream: could this be me?



217 pp., paper, June 2003

Stock Number: 550.46

List Price: \$21

AFS Member Price: \$15

ISBN 1-888569-52-2

To order:

Online: www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi

Phone: (678) 366-1411, or Fax: (770) 442-9742

Email: afspubs@pbd.com

Population Genetics: Principles and Applications for Fisheries Scientists

Eric Hallerman, editor

The principles of population genetics have important bearing on the practice of fisheries science. However, fisheries managers do not typically receive training in population genetics. This is due, in large part, to lack of course materials in population genetics relevant to fisheries science. This book was born of a need perceived by many fisheries geneticists for the availability of a textbook for a course in fisheries genetics.



Qualified instructors too busy to develop their own course from scratch can use this title as a ready resource text for teaching such a course. Population Genetics is an excellent resource for making the field of population genetics relevant and accessible

to students and practitioners of fisheries science.

507 pp., hardcover, March 2003
Stock Number: 550.34
List price: \$69.00
AFS member price: \$48

ISBN 1-888569-27-1

To order:

Online: www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi

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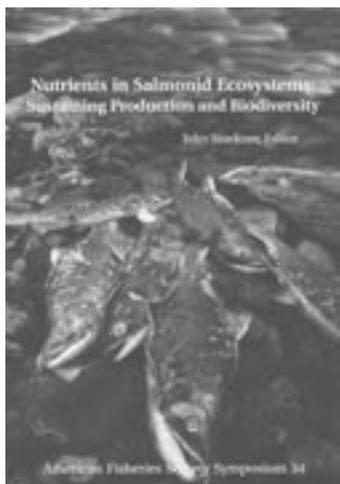
Email: afspubs@pbd.com

Nutrients in Salmonid Ecosystems: Sustaining Production and Biodiversity

John Stockner, editor

The proceedings of the 2001 conference "Restoring Nutrients to Salmonid Ecosystems" and the first book of its kind, this volume presents recent information on the role and importance of marine-derived nutrients in salmonid ecosystems. The authors examine how this research can be used effectively to assist in rebuilding salmonid stocks in the Pacific Northwest.

The book contains: (1) Description and management of historical and current nutrient regimes in salmonid ecosystems; (2) Ecological linkages between salmon and productivity of freshwater ecosystems and the ecological impacts of a diminished salmon nutrient shadow; (3) Dispersal mechanisms of marine-derived nutrients in Pacific Northwest freshwater ecosystems; (4) The effects of hatcheries, harvest, and other resource management regimes on nutrients and their dispersal; and (5) An incorporation of nutrient management into ecosystem restoration.



AFS Symposium 34
302 pp., paper, February 2003
Stock Number: 540.34
List price: \$60
AFS member price: \$42

ISBN 1-888569-44-1

To order:

Online: www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi

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The American Fisheries Society (AFS) is pleased to announce its newest online service – Fisheries InfoBase, providing abstracts and the full-text PDF

versions of 1988-1997 articles appearing in AFS journals.

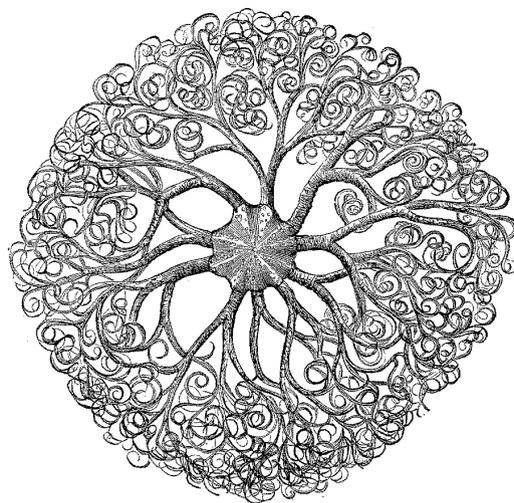
For subscription information, visit http://www.fisheries.org/publications/Infobase/afs_infobase.shtml

Or go online to the AFS Homepage at www.fisheries.org and click on "Fisheries InfoBase"

What's new at AFS? Read all about it at <http://www.fisheries.org/WhatsNew.shtml>

The AFS Online Bookstore is a valuable resource for all fisheries and aquaculture related books:

<http://www.fisheries.org/cgi-bin/hazel-cgi/hazel.cgi>



AFS SPONSORS INTERNATIONAL STREAM RESTORATION WORKSHOP

The AFS-FMS was a major sponsor of the 13th International Salmonid Habitat Enhancement Workshop held September 16-19, 2002 in Westport, Co. Mayo, Ireland. This was the first workshop held out of the North American continent since the workshops originated in 1978. These workshops have been held every two years facilitated by the FMS AFS, the U.S. Forest Service, Trout Unlimited, host States, and local AFS Chapters and Divisions. FMS Past President Don Duff has been facilitating the workshops for several years and said this year's workshop was one of the most successful in this long series. The workshops were originally begun to "reacquaint" fisheries workers on the art of stream restoration for salmonids, and past workshops have been held throughout the U.S and Canada since 1978.

This international workshop had 225 participants from primarily European countries with a small contingent of attendees from the U.S. and Canada.

The AFS was well represented from the North American contingent, including AFS Past President Bob Carline, and some European members. The workshop focus was on the salmonid restoration and enhancement works completed by Ireland's Central Fisheries Board and its Regional Fisheries Boards throughout the country with emphasis on habitat enhancement for Atlantic salmon, sea trout, and resident native brown trout. The restoration works took place from 1995-2000 with major grant-in-aid monies to Ireland from the European Union amounting to about \$19 million punts. Some 200 miles of salmonid waters in Ireland were enhanced through the program making it one of the largest and most successful stream enhancement works generated in the world. The workshop had two days of technical papers followed by two days of field tours to view completed works. AFS member Ray White (Washington) provided the opening keynote address on the history of stream restoration past and present. Central Fisheries Board (CFB) Director John O'Connor hosted the workshop that was planned and developed by his Senior Research Biologist Dr. Martin O'Grady and key fisheries colleagues Karen Delanty and Sandra Doyle along with close consultation with workshop facilitator Don Duff. International participants included fisheries workers from the Republic of Ireland, England, Northern Ireland, Finland, Norway, Belgium, Germany, Scotland, Canada, and Iceland.

The workshop Proceedings comprised of papers and abstracts, including a field tours guidebook and evaluation was prepared prior to the workshop and was available to the attendees at registration. Additional copies of the Proceedings are available from the CFB at a nominal cost on a first-come basis. Information on the Proceedings can be viewed on the CFB website www.cfb.ie

The workshop generated much interest for the international participants and planning has begun to host the workshop again in 2006 in the Europe area. Interest in hosting the 2004 workshop gained support from attending AFS members from the Pacific Northwest (Portland-Columbia River area). The FMS will continue to facilitate these workshops to assure technology transfer to fisheries workers worldwide.

By Don Duff
801-524-3945
dduff@fs.fed.us





4th World Fisheries Congress

Vancouver, BC, Canada 2004

World Fisheries Congress 2nd Call For Abstracts

This is the second announcement of a call for abstracts for the 4th World Fisheries Congress (www.worldfisheries2004.org), to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from May 2 – 6, 2004. The deadline for submissions is 1 July 2003, and there are over 40 topics related to the Congress theme, Reconciling Fisheries with Conservation: The Challenge of Managing Aquatic Ecosystems.

Please visit the event web site for further details and to submit your abstract: www.worldfisheries2004.org/abstract/abstract.htm. Posters will be the main communication medium of the Congress and will be displayed prominently, with a selection of oral presentations in concurrent sessions.

Oral and poster presentations will be given equal status for subsequent publication in the proceedings.

New education and training workshops, available immediately before and after the Congress, will be provided by highly-qualified instructors and will cover a range of practical and intellectual

challenges in fisheries management. More information about the workshops is available at the event web site: www.worldfisheries2004.org/education/education.htm.

Limited financial assistance for the education and training workshops and attendance of the Congress is available for researchers and scientists from countries with “emerging economies”. Please see details and procedures for requesting financial assistance at the event web site: http://www.worldfisheries2004.org/education/financial_assist.htm.

We welcome your participation in the 4th World Fisheries Congress; if you have not already done so, please visit our web site and fill out an Expression of Interest Form that will allow us to keep you updated.

Best Regards,

Bruce Ward
Dana Schmidt
Bern Megrey

Executive Committee Members

2002-2003 WDAFS Award Winners Announced at 2003 Annual Meeting

Award	Winner
Award of Excellence	Dr. Gary Sakagawa Dr. Oscar Sosa-Nishizaki
Award of Merit	Bill Bradshaw Bruce May
Award of Special Recognition	Dave Manning Yvonne Muirhead Dave Zafft
Robert L. Borovicka Conservation Achievement Award	R. Hon. Jean Chretien
Chapter the Year	California-Nevada
Conservation Achievement Award	Chelan County PUD Ted Turner and the Turner Foundation
Excellence in Riparian Management	Lewiston Field Office of the BLM, for the Upper Missouri River project and the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Pacific NW Region, USDA Forest Service, for the "Respect the River" educational program

Grants Funding Deadline September 30!

Criteria For Evaluating Grant Proposals

The mission of the American Fisheries Society is to “*improve the conservation and sustainability of fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals.*” Western Division AFS objectives are to provide a forum for exchanging technical and policy information, promote understanding by regional, Federal, and state policy-makers of the nature and extent of fishery matters of concern to the membership, facilitate timely exchange of information to chapters and the general membership, and provide a vehicle for the active participation of individual members in Society business and professional activities. Projects that clearly help achieve the AFS mission and Western Division objectives, either individually or collectively, will be prioritized for Division Grant funding over those that do not. To realize the greatest value from limited Division resources, projects addressing AFS goals and objectives, those with high visibility, and those with a greater fishery resource impact, will be given priority.

The Executive Committee will consider the following project elements when making grants funding decisions:

Does the proposal:

- Promote the AFS mission and WDAFS objectives (described above)?
- Incorporate and promote science-based management, conservation or understanding of fisheries resources?
- Elevate the visibility of fisheries issues to a broad audience?
- Need Division funding for completion of the project relative to other funding sources?
- Have potential for generating revenue to the Division?_

Application Process

- A Western Division AFS member or sub-unit must submit the application.
- **Applications must be received by September 30th of each year.**
- Applications must include the following information:
 - Project Titles
 - Name of requesting subunit or member
 - Name, address, phone number, fax number, and email address of contact(s)
 - Project description (What will the funds be used for?)
 - Estimated time to completion

- Amount requested
- Other funding sources and amounts provided
- How will the Western Division’s contribution be acknowledged?
- Disposition of unused funds
- Submit applications to the Division President (see page 3).

The Division Excom will review applications at the annual fall Executive Committee Retreat and notify and award successful applicants by December 31st. The Grants funding cycle is for the Division’s fiscal year (July 1 – June 30).

Cal-Neva Chapter Co-wins Chapter of the Year Award from AFS

The California/Nevada and Minnesota chapters of the American Fisheries Society will BOTH receive the AFS Outstanding Chapter Award for 2003. The initial vote resulted in a tie, and the tie-breaker did not separate the two chapters. Thus, both chapters will be recognized at the Quebec meeting.

Congratulations to both chapters!