

The Tributary

A Newsletter of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

Volume 30, No. 2, July 2006

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Editor

Kajsa Stromberg
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Calling all Western Division members - Vote by August 14th

It's time once again for the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) membership to elect our leaders. Each year, we must elect a new Vice President for the Division. As Vice President, this person takes on important responsibilities for our society and serves one year each as Vice President, President-Elect, and President of the Western Division.



Candidates

There are two candidates for Vice President: Scott Bonar and Russ Bellmer. There is one candidate for Nominating Committee Representative: Don Martin. See candidate statements on the next page.

Voting

Voting is easy and takes only a moment. Voting is open to all members of the Western Division from August 1 to August 14, 2006. You may vote by email or standard mail and late votes will not be counted. Write in candidates are allowed provided the candidate is willing to serve.

Vote today!

Simply send an email indicating your vote
to Dave Ward:

dave.ward@cbfwa.org

Or, send your ballot by standard mail:

Attn: Dave Ward
Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Authority
851 SW 6th Ave., Suite 260
Portland, OR 97204

Meet the Candidates

✓ **Scott Bonar, Candidate for Vice President**

I look forward to serving the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society, and I would appreciate your support!

I am an associate professor of natural resources at the University of Arizona and Unit Leader of the Arizona Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit in Tucson. I worked for 23 years in natural resources programs of state and federal government, academia, and private industry, authoring over 100 publications, managing over 60 natural resources projects, and supervising over 80 employees and graduate students. My work focuses on fisheries management, especially introduced fish and desert fish management and ecology. This work was used to develop 14 laws or policies, and was featured in the Associated Press, CNN, CBS and a variety of local media outlets. To support this work, I have partnered with agencies and private organizations including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the U.S. Geological Survey, the National Park Service, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, the Bureau of Land Management, the American Fisheries Society and various state and local agencies in Arizona, California, Washington and Oregon. I teach graduate courses at the University of Arizona on Fisheries Management and Biopolitics.

I have been involved in a variety of professional societies. Currently I am Standard Sampling Committee Chair of the Fisheries Management Section of AFS. In this capacity I lead an effort to standardize inland fisheries sampling across North America. This project is funded by nine federal, state and private organizations, includes two other coeditors and almost 50 authors and researchers from the United States, Canada and Mexico. We are halfway through the project, and will publish a book on recommended standard sampling methods. Last year, I was a plenary speaker for the annual joint meeting of The Wildlife Society and the American Fisheries Society Arizona/New Mexico Chapter Meeting. I have also been a local arrangements chair and program chair, coordinating conferences put on by the Washington State Lake Protection Association, the Pacific Fisheries Biologists, and the Desert Fishes Council. I hold a B.S. degree in Education from the University of Evansville, and a Ph.D. in Fisheries Science from the University of Washington.

The fisheries professionals in the western United States are some of the best I have seen. I would consider it a privilege to work with you to support the programs of the AFS Western Division.

✓ **Dr. Russell J. Bellmer, Candidate for Vice President**

I have been a fishery biologist and worked in the field of pollution impact assessment and restoration ecology for over 30 years. Currently, I am a consultant with my own small firm, RJB Ecological Consultants. In addition to teaching oceanography and marine ecology part-time, I work on two small research grants. I have had the pleasure and honor to work with scientists in four outstanding collaborative programs and an excellent administrative staff at the USFWS Stockton Fisheries Resource Office as Project Leader. These four programs include Juvenile Native Fish Population Monitoring and Research, Anadromous Fish Habitat Restoration, Non-native Invasive Species, and Fish Population Research. Previously, I was a senior scientist with the NOAA Fisheries Restoration Center in Silver Spring, MD directing the Restoration Science Program and Natural Resources Damage Assessment Restoration Program. My research interests are in the fields of pollution impacts at the community level and restoration ecology. I have a Ph.D. from Clark University in Marine Ecology, an M.S. from CSUDH in Environmental Science (Ecology), and a B.S. in Biological Sciences (Ecology) from UC Irvine. *Continued next page.*

Meet the Candidates

(continued from previous page) My experience with professional societies mostly dealing with conferences, workshops, and technical publications will benefit the Western Division of AFS and prepare me for the assignments related to the position of Division President. I am currently the President of the Cal-Neva Chapter and have been an active member of several professional societies since the early 80's. During my career, I have helped organized national symposia for National Marine Fisheries Service, Environmental Protection Agency, Ecological Society of America, Society of Wetland Scientists, The Ocean Society, The Coastal Society, Society for Ecological Restoration, and several regional scientific societies. I have given numerous technical presentations as an invited speaker at scientific conferences throughout the coastal U.S as well as published numerous technical papers in the field of fisheries habitat restoration and marine pollution assessment. I have served as a peer reviewer for articles published in journal of several societies and provided technical assistance to educational institutions in the preparation of training material in the area of habitat conservation, restoration, and enhancement. I have received several Professional Achievement Awards for technical and management performance from the Federal government and Non-Governmental Organizations.

If elected, I am capable of assisting the Western Division to resolve contentious issues and to represent the membership in a very positive, strong, science-based position. This posture ensures that Division actions will be recognized in the West as well as at the national level. I have a very high respect for the outstanding membership and their contributions to the field of fisheries science. I am looking forward to working with the membership and others in developing a great program at the next National annual meeting and moving the Western Division forward as a significant part of AFS.

✓ Don Martin, Candidate for Nominating Committee Representative

I am a Senior Natural Resource Advisor with EPA Region 10's Office of Water and Watershed and am based in EPA's Coeur d'Alene Field Office. I have been with EPA for 22 years, and my current work focuses on facilitating watershed restoration and protection efforts with local watershed groups, as well as local, state, tribal and federal governments. I am an aquatic ecologist with a Bachelor's Degree in zoology and Master's Degree in biology, both from Humboldt State University.

My AFS activities have included: President - Idaho Chapter; President - Western Division; President - Water Quality Section; and recipient of the AFS Distinguished Service Award. I am currently active with the Mentoring Committee of the Idaho Chapter.

The Golden Gate Awaits AFS in 2007

David Manning, AFS 2007 Meeting General Chair

As most of you know, the Cal-Neva Chapter and Western Division of AFS are excited to host the 137th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society in San Francisco on September 2-6, 2007. We plan to welcome more than 2,000 national and international colleagues to the beautifully appointed downtown Marriott Hotel. More details will be available in the next WDAFS Tributary newsletter.



President's message

Joe Margraf, Western Division AFS President

They say time flies when you're having fun, and that's certainly been the case for this past year. The Division had two very successful meetings in only eight months time. We started the year at the national annual meeting in Anchorage last September, a meeting I told you about in my last message. I have just one update regarding that meeting. The final registration count exceeded expectations with more than 2,800 participants. Not only was it by far the largest meeting ever for AFS, it was also the largest "convention" of the year in Anchorage. The Western Division's 2006 Annual Meeting was held in Bozeman in May, hosted by the Montana Chapter. The final accounting is still underway; with more than 200 quality presentations and posters, plenary session, special symposia, and contributed papers, the meeting was an unqualified success. My sincerest thanks go to the Montana Chapter for hosting the Division meeting and to the Montana State University Student Subunit for their assistance. The Western Division's next Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Parent AFS and Cal-Neva Chapter in San Francisco, September 2007. Will the 2007 meeting break the attendance record set in Anchorage? Time will tell.

While we've obviously achieved some great communication successes, we've faltered some as well. At last year's annual meeting, the Executive Committee (EXCOM) decided to move into the 21st century and begin publishing the *Tributary* as an electronic newsletter. Immediately afterward, our long-time newsletter editor resigned, exhausted from the ever-escalating "do more for less" philosophy so prevalent in today's work-world. I want to personally thank Mark Brouder for his years of dedicated service to the Division. It has taken us awhile to find a new volunteer, but the wait has been worthwhile.

Continued Page 5.

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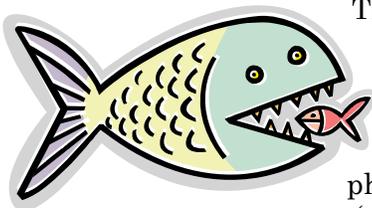
(President's Message, continued from Page 4) Our new newsletter editor is Kajsa Stromberg (kstromberg@montana.edu); please welcome her on board—with lots of newsworthy items for distribution. At the same time, we were also searching for a new webmaster to maintain our other principal means of communication, our website. After years of monumental service, Mary Whalen had also asked to be relieved, for the same reasons as Mark. Please join me in thanking Mary for her service. We now have joint webmasters, Paige Ackerman (ackerman@interchange.ubc.ca) and Steve Bauer (stevebauer6@cableone.net). Please welcome Paige and Steve on board, as well.

I'll end with a brief summary of my President's Address at our annual business meeting luncheon in Bozeman, "The Western Division: Who, what, why, and who cares, anyway." The Western Division is every AFS member residing in the western United States, Canada, and Mexico. You are a member by virtue of where you live. As a member of a local Chapter, you are represented on the Division Executive Committee (EXCOM) by your Chapter President. If you don't belong to a Chapter, you are represented by the Division's officers who are elected by you, the members. What does the Division do? We serve as a regional focal point for issues important to us at a scale larger than that of the local Chapter. We serve as a medium for communicating outside of our local boundaries. Finally, we, the President and President-elect, represent you on Governing Board of the Parent Society, elevating issues important to you that reach beyond the Division. Why should you care? Well, if you believe everything you do happens in a vacuum or everything you do is accomplished by your actions alone or nothing you do matters anyway, then I guess you shouldn't care. Why then did you join AFS? Finally, everyone working for the Division, whether elected or appointed, is a volunteer. We do it out of a sense of duty to the profession and to the resource. What we get in return, as members of AFS, is a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as your President for the past year. I feel a great sense of pride in this organization, a pride we should all share. Thanks to Lynn Starnes, immediate Past President, for her mentoring; Bob Hughes, President-elect, for keeping me on track; Dave Ward, Secretary/Treasurer, for keeping us informed and solvent; Eric Wagner, Vice President, for agreeing to step into the fray for four years of leadership; and finally, to all of the rest of you who stepped-up to serve the Division in many ways this past year.

Joe Margraf – President

Updated AFS Fish Health Section "Blue Book" Released



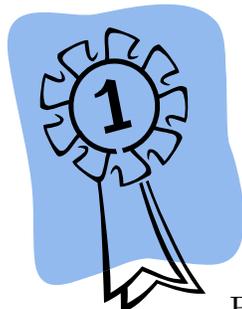
The updated 2005 edition of *Suggested Procedures for the Detection and Identifications of Certain Finfish and Shellfish Pathogens* (Blue Book) is now available. Published on searchable CD-ROM by the AFS Fish Health Section, the Blue Book contains the newly revised "Standard Procedures for Aquatic Animal Health Inspections" and contains numerous color photographs and video clips. Order this update through the AFS Web site (<http://www.fisheries.org>).

Roundup of 2006 Western Division AFS Meeting – Bozeman, MT; June 15-17, 2006

Annual Meeting Highlights

Bob Hughes, Program Co-Chair, WDAFS President-elect

The annual meeting of the Western Division of AFS was held 15-19 May 2006 on the campus of Montana State University in Bozeman, Montana, and was very ably planned and hosted by the Montana Chapter and Montana State University Student Subunit. The nearly 440 registrants (including AFS President Chris Kohler and President-elect Jennifer Nielsen) enjoyed three continuing education options, a welcoming plenary and panel discussion, three to four concurrent sessions per half-day, a poster session, and daily socials. Plenary speakers included Phil Pister of the Desert Fishes Council (shown here on left with Barry McPherson). Several attendees stayed on for an additional day or two to fish or learn about fish management issues in Yellowstone National Park. Special sessions were organized and held on non-native fishes, bull trout, sturgeon, bioassessment, warmwater/prairie streams, and Chinook culture. The latter session was sponsored by the AFS Fish Culture Section and attracted several speakers and attendees from outside the Division.



WDAFS award winners included Wayne Hubert (Award of Excellence), Pacific Rivers Council (Conservation Achievement Award), Mark Gorges (Award of Merit), Richard Vincent (Special Recognition Award), Oregon Chapter (Outstanding Chapter Award). Beth Bear won the special raffle for the Aire raft and frame.

Special thanks go to Leanne Roulson (General Chair/Meeting Coordinator), Mike Meeuwig (Poster Chair & Program Wizard), Chris Guy (Contributed Papers Chair), Clint Muhlfeld (Fund Raising Chair), Kate Walker (Trade Show Chair), Pat Byorth (Plenary & Panel Chair), Dave Schmetterling (Continuing Education Chair), Windy Davis (Raffle/Auction Chair), Bob Gresswell (Student Presentations Chair), Lee Nelson (Meeting Website), Ginger Gillin (Registrant Gifts), Travis Horton (Technology Coordinator), and Matt Jaeger (Powerpoint Chair).



Leanne Roulson (left), Meeting Coordinator



I also thank the persons who herded cats for the special sessions: Shelly Spalding and Jason Dunham (Bull Trout), Kevin Kappenman and Molly Webb (Sturgeon), Wease Bollman (Bioassessment), Beth Bear and Christina Barrineau (Warmwater/Prairie), and Mike Barnes and William Saylor (Chinook Culture). They and the many other persons who volunteered to chair contributed paper sessions, judge presentations, and aid the various meeting chairs made this an enjoyable and educational event.

At left, Beth Bear winning the Aire raft and frame.



2006 Awards

CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT: Pacific Rivers Council

The Pacific Rivers Council (PRC) has been a leader in science-driven aquatic conservation through public policy advocacy, dedicated to its mission “*to protect and restore rivers, their watersheds, and native aquatic species.*”

Notable achievements of PRC are the landmark 1988 Oregon Omnibus National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, which added 40 outstanding rivers totaling 1,500 river miles to the National Wild and Scenic River system. The PRC played the key role in developing and advocating the nation’s first comprehensive aquatic conservation strategy, which was adopted in the President’s Northwest Forest Plan. Initiating the highly acclaimed stream restoration project on Knowles Creek in Oregon (part of the Siuslaw River Basin Restoration Partnership) was also the work of PRC.

Over the years, PRC has convened expert panels of scientists and commissioned original research to fill critical gaps in scientific understanding. In addition, the Council’s expertise in policy analysis has produced important publications, providing conservationists, decision-makers, forest managers, and the public the information needed for sound implementation of national policy. When necessary, PRC litigates to ensure that the best available science and relevant law are applied to resource management decisions. PRC has played a leading role in shaping important legal victories benefiting native fishes and their habitats. PRC believes that strategic advocacy integrating science, economics, and law is the most effective way to protect and restore the remaining important habitat for native aquatic species.

AWARD OF MERIT: Mark Gorges

With more than 20 years of service to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Mark Gorges has consistently demonstrated an unwavering commitment to resource protection, consensus building, and education. During the past 17 years, the riparian and fisheries programs on BLM lands in Wyoming have thrived under Mark’s guidance.

In the fisheries program, Wyoming BLM has increased the number of dedicated fisheries biologists across the state from zero to three. Mark fought tirelessly to bring scarce aquatic funding to Wyoming, adding the expertise needed to accomplish numerous habitat improvement and restoration projects on the ground. Mark has served as an instructor at numerous training courses and workshops including BLM’s Introduction to Fisheries Management and Using Aerial Photos to Assess PFC of Riparian-Wetland Areas. In addition to classroom instruction, Mark shared his knowledge of fisheries by contributing to several publications, including BLM’s Resident Fish Management Strategy and the Wyoming Resident Fish Habitat Management Strategy. Mark has served on numerous Conservation Teams for aquatic species. In an effort to share his love of fishing, Mark has participated in community activities and created a set of maps detailing Fishing Opportunities in Wyoming.

Mark’s contributions to the BLM’s riparian program are equally impressive. Since 1996, he has coordinated the interagency (BLM, USFS, NRCS) Creeks and Communities strategy for the Wyoming Riparian Training Cadre (Cadre). The Cadre has conducted over 25 two-day workshops on assessing riparian condition across Wyoming, South Dakota and Nebraska. Under Mark’s leadership, each BLM Field Office in Wyoming has designated a riparian coordinator for their office. These individuals have worked with Mark to conduct baseline riparian inventories on all riparian areas on BLM lands in Wyoming. In 2005, Mark helped to organize the Little Sandy River Riparian Restoration project, which involved more than 100 volunteers as part of BLM’s National Public Lands Day celebration. Finally, Mark has been instrumental in helping the University of Wyoming develop a National Hydrography Dataset for Wyoming.

AWARD OF EXCELLENCE: Dr. Wayne A. Hubert



Dr. Wayne Hubert (middle) accepts the WDAFS Award of Excellence.

Dr. Wayne Hubert has an outstanding list of accomplishments in the areas of research, teaching, and service in the fisheries profession. A well-known and highly respected fisheries biologist, Wayne has been active in the AFS at the state, division, and national levels. Wayne's work has had a major impact on fisheries management through his research publications and training of more than 65 graduate students, the majority of whom are now employed as fisheries biologists across the United States.

Wayne has published a phenomenal 223 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals and books, an average of nearly seven papers per year! His publications span a wide range of fisheries topics with special emphasis on fish-habitat relations and salmonid biology. He also served as the co-editor (with Christopher Kohler) of *Inland Fisheries Management in North America* – the textbook most widely used for fisheries management courses in North American universities.

In his capacity as a member of the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Cooperative Research Unit program, Wayne teaches graduate level courses and seminars. He regularly offers a course titled “Advanced Fisheries Management” that a large number of graduate students benefit from. The course prepares students for the issues and problems they will face as practicing fisheries biologists. Wayne keeps the course current and relevant to fisheries students, and makes it challenging.

Wayne's career also reflects a commitment to the American Fisheries Society. When he arrived at the University of Wyoming in 1982, one of his first actions was to revive the student sub-unit of the American Fisheries Society. He has served as advisor to the student sub-unit ever since. His service also includes numerous positions at the state and national levels of the American Fisheries Society. Wayne was also an editor for the *North American Journal of Fisheries Management* from 1996-1998 and re-enlisted as an associate editor from 2001-2003.

Wayne believes strongly in continuing education and thus, he has organized and/or taught many courses designed to expand the skills and knowledge base of fisheries professionals. During the past three years alone, he has conducted workshops for state and federal fisheries biologists on rotenone and antimycin use, technical writing, and stream habitat assessment.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: Richard Vincent

Richard (Dick) Vincent has been a member of Montana's Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks for over 30 years. He wrote some of the seminal papers on the detrimental effects of stocking fish in streams on top of viable populations. This notable work led to implementation of policies in many states restricting stocking to reservoirs and lakes. Later in his career, issues related to whirling disease in Montana and the Madison River dominated his time. Through Dick's efforts, several rainbow trout strains were tested for resistance to whirling disease, potentially resistant strains were identified, and experimental broodstock are in development.

WDAFS Scholarship Winners Announced

Bob Gresswell, Scholarship Committee Chair

The Western Division AFS scholarship attracted an impressive group of applicants this year. Thirteen students (five Ph.D. and eight M.S.) applied for three awards this year, and they represent 11 different institutions in eight western states and British Columbia. The number of students is higher this year, and the diversity of locations has increased (including a Canadian applicant). The choice was extremely difficult; this was an outstanding group of students! In fact, we decided to give four awards this year. One of the Eugene Maughan awards and the Trachtenberg Scholarship will each go to a Ph.D. student, but this year's group of Master's students was so good that we decided to present two Eugene Maughan awards at that level. The award winners listed below were formally recognized at the WDAFS business meeting in Bozeman, Montana.

Eugene Maughan Scholarship

George Pess, University of Washington, Ph. D.
Kiza Gates, Montana State University, M.S.
Carl Saunders, Colorado State University, M.S.

Sustainable Fisheries Foundation William Trachtenberg Scholarship

Michael Meeuwig, Montana State University

The scholarship committee is currently trying to broaden its geographic representation. If you are interested in joining the committee, contact Bob Gresswell by phone at (406) 994-7085 or e-mail, bgresswell@usgs.gov.

<http://www.fisheries.org>

Riparian Challenge 2006

*David Zafft, Riparian, Watersheds and Habitat
Committee Chair*

Hilda Sexauer, Riparian Challenge Subcommittee

Exceptional efforts to improve riparian ecosystems and watersheds are recognized each year through the Riparian Challenge, a project of the Riparian, Watershed and Habitat Committee of the Western Division AFS. The Committee promotes scientific understanding and management of riparian zones, watersheds, and fish habitat. To further this mission, they coordinate among and between AFS members, scientific organizations, the public, policy makers, agencies and other relevant stakeholders.

Annually, nominees for the Riparian Challenge are solicited by the Riparian Challenge Subcommittee through AFS Web sites and newsletters, and through resource agencies. In April, twenty-seven nominations had been received — thirteen from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), ten from the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and four from other agencies and organizations. Winners were selected from these three categories to receive the 2006 Award of Excellence in Riparian Management at the Western Division's annual business meeting.

This year's winners in each of the three categories were the BLM Redding Field Office (BLM), the McKenzie River Restoration Partnership (USFS), and the Pima County Board (Other). The BLM Redding Field Office was recognized for work on the Lower Clear Creek Watershed Project, the McKenzie River Restoration Partnership was recognized for the McKenzie Watershed Project, and the Pima County Board was recognized for the Cienega Watershed Project. Each winning project can be viewed on the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter Web site and on the Western Division Web site as examples of excellent riparian management.

See photos of Riparian Challenge winners on Page 10.

Riparian Challenge Award Winners 2006



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Redding Field Office was recognized for work on the Lower Clear Creek Watershed Project.



The McKenzie River Restoration Partnership was recognized for the McKenzie Watershed Project



The Pima County Board was recognized for the Cienega Watershed Project.

Membership Update

Eric Wagner, Membership Committee Chair

Current membership in the Western Division of AFS tallies 1,807 individual members grouped into 12 chapters.

Membership by chapter:

- Alaska: 290
- Arizona-New Mexico: 84
- Bonneville (UT): 74
- California-Nevada: 501
- Colorado-Wyoming: 151
- Hawaii: 9
- Humboldt Chapter: 37
- Idaho: 53
- Mexico Chapter: 18
- Montana: 143
- North Pacific International Chapter: 42
- Oregon Chapter: 405

Upcoming Events

AFS 136th Annual Meeting
Lake Placid, NY
September 10-14, 2006

For information, visit:
<http://www.afslakeplacid.org>

Bonneville Chapter Update: Successful Winter Conference in Park City, Utah, March 20-22, 2006

Phaedra Budy, Bonneville Chapter President

Despite a winter storm warning and cold temperatures, a warm reception and hot topics were delivered to more than 100 members of the Bonneville Chapter of the American Fisheries Society (BAFS) at the annual conference in Park City, Utah in March 2006. The theme for the meeting was “Fish in the Balance”, to parallel the 2006 Annual Meeting of the parent society, was. A plenary session addressing the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) Groundwater Project highlighted the meeting. Featured speakers represented the Southern Nevada Water Authority, state and federal agencies, and conservationists from the Wild Utah Project.



Eriek Hansen, M.S. Graduate student at working on a before/after Utah State University received a \$1000 scholarship to attend a Stream Restoration Shortcourse.

The session initiated discussions of the strategies fisheries professionals employ to cope with competing uses and desires for fisheries and aquatic resources. Specific to the proposed SNWA Groundwater Project, the panelists discussed the potential impacts on aquatic resources, given our understanding of complex ecological, sociological and economic issues. As a chapter, we decided to formulate a resolution to highlight concerns related to potentially affected aquatic species and habitat, and noting our desire to stay informed and involved. A subcommittee has been formed to draft the resolution.

and beyond. In addition, the Student Subunit of BAFS offered a continuing education shortcourse, providing an introduction to GIS with fisheries applications.

The general meeting featured 20 oral presentations as part of the technical sessions along with 13 posters, and a special session, which included discussions on current issues in fisheries management in the Bonneville Basin

The Chapter awarded scholarships for the best poster presentation to Kris Homel, Utah State University (USU) (\$500). Awards for oral presentations went to 1st Place, Tarita Harju, USU, and Runner-up, Jill Ayala, Brigham Young University (BYU) (\$500). In addition, Eriek Hansen, USU, received a \$1000 scholarship to attend a Stream Restoration Shortcourse. And as usual, the meeting had its fun side; an opening student pizza social featured a fish identification contest that provided many laughs. The chapter also presented several awards (*see* May issue of the BAFS Lateral Line) including eight Lifetime Achievement Awards, honoring recent retirees at the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, thanking each of these professionals for their longtime commitment to managing and conserving our fisheries resources in Utah.



Kris Homel, M.S. Graduate student working on bull trout conservation genetics and movement at Utah State University, won the BAFS 2006 award for the best poster (\$500).

Addressing Fisheries Issues in the 21st Century: 42nd Oregon Chapter Annual Meeting Exceeds Expectations!

Mike Reed, Oregon Chapter AFS President Elect

“Addressing Fisheries Issues in the 21st Century,” served as an inviting theme for the 42nd Annual Meeting of the Oregon AFS Chapter. Nearly 500 people attended the meeting from March 1-3, 2006 at Sunriver Resort in Sunriver, Oregon - the Chapter’s largest ever turnout for a meeting in Sunriver, exceeding all expectations. Many thanks to Mike Reed (Incoming President / Meeting Chair) and Neil Ward (Internal Director / Arrangements Chair) for their excellent organization and coordination of this year’s meeting.

The three day event featured 16 technical sessions during which 139 papers were presented. The sessions covered a variety of issues important to the fisheries field and our Chapter. An additional 31 posters presentations highlighted the Wednesday night Poster Session and Social. You can view paper and poster abstracts on the Oregon Chapter web site (www.orafs.org, select “Meetings and Workshops”). We appreciate the work of all speakers and poster presenters who shared their research at this year’s meeting. Appreciation is also due to the session conveners: Nick Ackerman, Matt Boyd, Charlie Corrarino, Ron Costello, Jim Grimes, Tom Iverson, Bill Knox, Tracey Momoda, Doug Olson, Alena Pribyl, Ian Reid, Jeremy Romer, Michelle Rub, Brad Ryan, Jesse Schwartz, Cindy Studebaker, Cindy Williams, and Frank Young.

Each day opened with a full-session plenary speaker. Although Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski had been scheduled to speak at the opening day’s session, had to cancel, we were fortunate to host Mike Carrier, Policy Director of the Governor’s Natural Resource Office, as the Governor’s replacement. Mr. Carrier spoke about the Governor’s involvement in a variety of environmental issues, including his decision to intervene in the biological opinion over the Federal Columbia River Power System as well as federal, state and private forestland management policies related to fish conservation issues.

It was our honor to host world-renowned marine biologist, Dr. Jane Lubchenco, Oregon State University’s (OSU) Distinguished Professor of Zoology, and Wayne and Gladys Valley Professor of Marine Biology. Speaking on Thursday, Dr. Lubchenco gave a thought-provoking presentation on her work with the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA). She described the attempt to link the importance of ecosystems to life-support systems for humans and all other forms of life sharing this planet. Dr. Lubchenco wrapped up her discussion with her thoughts on scientists’ role in influencing policy. Read more about her in the July 2006 issue of *National Geographic*, in an article about the state of the world’s water resources.



Above, Mike Reed (left) and Barry McPherson (right) with plenary speaker Dr. Jane Lubchenco at the 2006 ORAFS Annual Meeting.

Finally, on Friday morning, we heard from Portland City Commissioner Erik Sten. Sten gave an excellent speech about the natural resource management roles and responsibilities the City of Portland has taken on in recent years --ranging from the Endangered Species Act, Superfund, and the Clean Water Act. As urban areas continue to spread across Oregon’s landscape, cities must take on more responsibilities to protect and restore water quality, quantity and biological communities.

Continued on Page 13.

(Continued from Page 12) Three pre-meeting workshops kicked off the annual meeting. Carl Schreck (OSU), Noah Adams (USGS), and John Beeman (USGS), facilitated a popular workshop entitled: “Radio and Acoustic Telemetry: Tags, Tagging, and Reception,” with an added focus on data analysis and presentation. Mary Buckman (ODFW) and Bryan Wright (ODFW) presented a workshop on “Sample Size and Statistical Power,” an extension of a previous year’s workshop. Hiram Li (OSU) organized a workshop on “Legislative and Political Processes: How to Influence Public Policy,” sharing his wealth of knowledge and experiences of being a scientist in the public and political arena.

More than 35 students participated in the Best Student Paper and Poster competition. Congratulations to winners for the 2006 Annual Meeting: Tracey Momoda, Best Student Paper, Alena Pribyl, 2nd Place. Jalal M. Al-Joundi, Aaron C. Chappell, Karissa A. Gerretsen, Blake J. Hatteberg, Evan T. Leonetti, Kristopher H. Miller, Best Student Poster; Patrick Luke, 2nd Place.



Above, Tracey Momoda, winner of 2006 Best Paper contest

In addition to the Best Paper and Poster competition, four Oregon Chapter scholarships were awarded. Steve Parker (Scholarship Chair) presented awards to: Seth White, Oregon State University (Ph.D.), Joseph Feldhaus, Oregon State University (M.S.), Aaron Chappell, Oregon State University (B.S.) and Steve Meck, Mt. Hood Community College (Associate’s).



Oregon Chapter Best Student Poster Winners (left to right): Aaron Chappell, Kristopher Miller, Blake Hatteberg, Karissa Gerretsen, Jalal Al-Joundi, and advisor, Dr. Selina Heppell. Not pictured: Evan Leonetti.

Peter Lofy, Awards Chair, presented Oregon Chapter awards to individuals and agencies for notable efforts in conserving and enhancing fishery resources and habitat. 2006 Award of Merit winners: Tim Unterwegner (ODFW), Mark Villers (Blue Ridge Timber Cutting, Inc.), the Minam Lake Reservoir Company, and Evan and Tillie Zimmerman (Eastern Oregon ranchers). Dan Domina (PGE) earned the auspicious “Broken Oar” award for being of sound mind and judgement under extreme pressure. Doug Olson (USFWS) received the Past President’s Award.

New Officers (2006-2007) were elected at the Business Meeting: Doug Young (President-Elect), Tom Friesen (Vice-President), Mike Reed (President), Barry McPherson (Past President), Ian Reid (Secretary-Treasurer), Neil Ward (Internal Director), and Karen Wegner (External Director).

Early risers who participated in the annual Spawning Fun Run, enjoyed the brisk air and beautiful scenery of Sunriver. Winners (those who came in closest to their predicted times) included: Liz Perkin, Alyssa Reischauer, Ian Tattum, Aaron Maxwell, Rodger Johnson, Steve Juhnke, John Baugher, and Bob Lackey.

Students and prospective employers mingled at the popular Student-Mentor Social organized by Laura Tesler, Mary Buckman, and Aaron Chappell. The combined Poster Session and Social on Wednesday night again proved to be a huge hit with the meeting attendees. Thanks to Neil Ward (Internal Director) for organizing the Social and Danielle Warner for arranging the Poster Session.



Peter Lofy (left) Awards Chair, presents Tim Unterwegner a 2006 Award of Merit.

The Oregon Chapter also hosted a Trade Show featuring seven vendors from around the Northwest who displayed products and services throughout the meeting. Thanks also to all of the sponsors of the 2006 annual meeting. *Continued Page 13.*

(Continued from Page 12) A special thanks to the USFWS Columbia River Fisheries Program Office for printing and assembling the program, and to Doug Olson (Past-President) who single-handedly bound 500 programs!

Thanks to Martyne Reesman and all of the volunteers for organizing a very successful raffle and auction, which featured original artwork by Joseph Tomelleri and Deian Moore. We thank all those who made donations of artwork, products, services, and time to this important Chapter fundraiser. A dance and karaoke party was held after the banquet, along with a Texas Hold'em fundraiser organized by Dave Ward and Tom Iverson.

The Oregon Chapter's officers all deserve thanks for their expertise and behind-the-scenes efforts - Barry McPherson, Doug Olson, Laura Tesler, Karen Wegner, Ian Reid, Neil Ward, and Aaron Chappell. We also thank Jim Hall for Program Editing and Loretta Brenner for her meeting organization and registration assistance.

Alaska Chapter Update

The **Alaska Chapter** is planning its annual conference: "Partnering with change, 21st century aquatic ecology in Alaska" November 13 - 16 in Fairbanks, Alaska. Our banquet speaker is Ronnie Greer, an acclaimed char biologist from Scotland who will share his personal research and give an overview of fisheries biology in Scotland. Specific sessions are as follows: Alaskan Estuaries, Behavioral Ecology, Aquatic Education, Marine Ecology, Alaskan Commercial Shellfish Fisheries, Preserving Fish Habitat in the 21st Century, Marine derived nutrients in Alaskan ecosystems, Ecosystem-based fishery management, Climate Change and Alaska Fish, and Contributed Papers.

First Recipient of the Molly Ahlgren Award



Above, Sonya Weihl receives the Molly Ahlgren Award from Hal Geiger.

The **Alaska Chapter** awarded the first recipient of the Molly O. Ahlgren Scholarship Award on April 22, Founder's Day at the Sheldon Jackson College. The Molly O. Ahlgren Scholarship Fund is endowed and invested to generate funds to support students in Alaska. Helping students was Molly's principal mission. She was an active member, president of the Alaska Chapter, and a member of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 135th Annual Meeting when she died in a boating accident on November 30, 2004. The award of \$2,000 went to Sonya Weihl, a junior majoring in marine biology. Professor Keith Cox, Molly's successor at Sheldon Jackson, made the presentation and read some short remarks on behalf of the Chapter, prepared by Hal Geiger, the Chapter's past president. Congratulations Sonya and we wish you the best in your future endeavors.

The **Alaska Chapter** continued updating our web site (<http://www.fisheries.org/afs-ak/>) to increase the content and use the most current web tools. The newly designed web site is designed to be easy to navigate and includes workshop and meeting announcements, newsletters, officer and committee member contact information, letters, current and upcoming events, job announcements, committee activities, alerts on important resource issues, and links other AFS web sites, state and federal agencies and other conservation-based organizations.

About the Tributary

The Tributary is the semi-annual newsletter of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society.

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About the American Fisheries Society

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.

<http://www.fisheries.org>

About the Western Division AFS

Established as the first Division of the [American Fisheries Society](#) in 1948, the Western now includes [Chapters](#) from thirteen western states, British Columbia, Yukon Territories, and U.S. Islands and Trust Territories of the Western Pacific.

Our members represent a tremendous array of fisheries workers involved in all aspects of the fisheries profession. The collective diversity and expertise of Western Division members is the basis of an intimate and unparalleled familiarity with fisheries resources and issues within our geographic region.

Division 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.

<http://www.wdafs.org>

