

# TRIBUTARY

## Western Division of the American Fisheries Society

*Advancing fisheries and aquatic science and professionals in western North America and the Pacific Islands*

**In this issue: 2024 WDAFS  
Meeting Updates & Deadlines,  
Committee Updates, Chapter  
Meeting Schedule, and more...**

**President:** Eric Fetherman    **President-Elect:** Julie Carter

**Vice President:** Tim Copeland    **Past-President:** Laurie Earley    **Sec.-Treasurer:** Laura Burckhardt

**Student Representative:** Meredith Leigh Journey    **Tributary Editor:** Timothy D'Amico



## PRESIDENT'S HOOK

### Eric Fetherman

Happy New Year! I hope all of you enjoyed the holidays and got a chance to spend some time with friends, family, and participating in some of your favorite outdoor activities!

This is a great time of year to reflect on the accomplishments of the year prior and look forward to the opportunities in the year to come. As for reflection, this has been a busy but productive fall for the Western Division. The Western Division Executive Committee met in person in Tempe, AZ to conduct Division business, including approving my President's Plan of Work, updating our mission and vision statements to be inclusive of our newest chapter, the Pacific Islands Chapter, approving the Division operating budget, and finding ways to better connect with our members through increased communication, information sharing, and membership benefits. The Executive Committee includes the six Division officers as well as Presidents from each chapter. Having everyone in one place also provided an opportunity for discussion of chapter business and the issues and

challenges that affect our members within and across the Division chapters. It also gave us all a chance to get to know each other better as we work on these items moving forward. All of these folks, as well as all other Division and chapter committee members and officers, volunteer a lot of their time to make AFS beneficial and relevant to its members and the fisheries profession. If you get the chance, please thank them for all of their hard work. It is great to have such an amazing group of folks leading the Division this year!

Looking forward, we have a lot of new things coming our way in the next year. First, we have a new Division logo! Thanks to everyone who submitted logo designs and the large number of Division members who took the time to vote for our new logo. In the near future, we plan to provide a site where you can purchase merchandise with the new logo and show your pride in being a member of the Western Division! More to come this spring. The Division committees have prepared new plans of work for the next



## *PRESIDENT'S HOOK, cont.*

year, and have some great upcoming opportunities for members including providing awards, scholarships, and travel grants, hosting webinars and other continuing education opportunities, and putting together workshops and symposia for the annual meeting. Winter and spring is also meeting time, and all of the Division chapters are busy planning their 2024 meetings. Later in the year, the Pacific Islands Chapter and Western Division will be co-hosting the Society meeting in Honolulu, HI. Attending these meetings is a great way to network, meet new friends, find job opportunities, recognize your colleagues for their great work through awards, and share your work. I hope you take the opportunity to attend one of these meetings and spend some time getting to better know your fishy friends and colleagues and all of the great work they do!

As we start into the New Year, it is also a good time to reflect on what AFS means to you and your career, and consider renewing your membership if you have not already done so. In addition to the numerous membership benefits offered by AFS, the society also provides opportunities for broader exposure of your work, to grow your professional network, enhance your leadership skills, and expand your impact and

give back to the fisheries profession. When you join AFS, you are automatically made a member of the Western Division if you reside within the geographical boundaries of the Division. The Division strives to provide additional membership benefits, including co-hosting an annual meeting with a Division chapter, hosting a student colloquium, providing support for your chapters, addressing the issues important to you, helping students and early career professionals as they enter the profession, recognizing the good work done by you and your colleagues, supporting your projects with small grants, providing travel grants to attend the annual meeting, representing you in interactions with AFS and the public, and facilitating communication between you and others in western North America and the Pacific Islands. You can find more information on many of these great opportunities later on in this newsletter. Division officers will be in attendance at all of the 2024 chapter meetings. Please stop by, say hi and introduce yourself, learn more about the Western Division and how you can help, and let us know how we can work together to make AFS relevant to you. We look forward to seeing you there!

## *WDAFS MISSION/VISION STATEMENTS*

**WDAFS MISSION:** The mission of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society is to: 1) improve the conservation and sustainability of unique fishery resources and aquatic ecosystems in western North America and the Pacific Islands by advancing fisheries and aquatic science and promoting the development of fisheries professionals, and 2) serving as an effective bridge between the Society and Chapters within the Western Division, promoting communication among and support of the Chapters and membership, and being the American Fisheries Society's representative to the public in western North America and the Pacific Islands.

**WDAFS VISION:** The Western Division of the American Fisheries Society seeks to be recognized as the pre-eminent organization providing fisheries information to decision makers in all arenas of western North America and the Pacific Islands. While fulfilling our vision, we will recruit and develop new fisheries professionals by offering learning and training op-

portunities crucial to maintaining a well-trained profession, support programs and efforts to increase diversity and inclusion, and enhance the value of American Fisheries Society professional certification.

**WDAFS SLOGAN:** Advancing fisheries and aquatic science and professionals in western North America and the Pacific Islands.

**WDAFS CHALLENGE:** Ignorance of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems is our arch enemy. We will fight against ignorance by communicating science to other scientists, decision makers, influencers, and the public, and we will advocate for conducting and using science to achieve sound management and policy decisions. We will expose suppression and misuse of science and enhance scientific credibility by attempting to maintain purity of the scientific enterprise. It is our hope that elevating science will help influencers and decision makers to achieve what is best for current and future generations.



## Western Division American Fisheries Society

### NEW WDAFS LOGO

The membership has spoken, and the logo competition is complete! Thank you to all the artists that contributed to this effort and thank you to everyone who voted. There was some stiff competition, but the selected logo had the edge.

The artist who designed the new logo is Emily Chen. Emily is a PhD student at University of California-Berkeley and the chair of the WDAFS Diversity & Inclusion Committee. She repicked up computer graphics as a hobby during the pandemic, designing the logo for her lab and creating educational posters for K-12 classrooms highlighting fisheries scientist of color. Her posters were printed with funds from the

Western Division small project grant (highlighted in [past Tributary newsletter](#)) and have been distributed across northern California schools to encourage children to become interested in fisheries and aquatic sciences. The logo was intended to depict the role of WDAFS carrying out the mission of the American Fisheries Society in the western region. The W and D's colors and design represents the region's spawn from the mountains to the sea.

The Division will be actively working to update all its materials and communications over the next couple months, but we are excited to release it in this new year!

### 2024 WDAFS MEETING UPDATES

#### Travel Grants

Tim Copeland

##### Call for 2024 WDAFS Travel Grants

Tim Copeland (WDAFS Vice President)

The Western Division and the Pacific Islands Chapter of The American Fisheries Society will be co-hosting the 2024 American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting. The Western Division is pleased to offer travel grants to help with registration and travel assistance to attend the meeting, which will be held in Honolulu, Hawai'i September 15-19, 2024. Applications will be received until **April 15, 2024**.

**The grant categories are the following:**

*Student*

*Early Career Professionals (graduated in the last five years)*

*Professionals*

*Emeritus*

*International Members*

*Indigenous/Tribal Members*

*Diversity and Inclusion Mentorship*

##### **Requirements for WDAFS Travel Awards:**

Current Society and WDAFS membership required (exception given to the Indigenous/Tribal Member Diversity and Inclusion Mentorship categories). You

## 2024 WDAFS MEETING UPDATES, *cont.*

will be asked to provide your AFS membership number. Applicants will be ranked on the following criteria:

1. Applicants who plan to actively participate at the 2024 annual meeting. This can include presenting an oral or poster presentation, assisting the planning committee, moderating a session, etc.
2. Applicants who are active (or interested in becoming active) in a sub-unit, Chapter, Western Division, or the Society.
3. Applicants who indicate a strong interest in fisheries, oceans, aquatic science and management.

International only: Applicants must reside outside the United States. If you reside outside of WDAFS boundaries, Provinces of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory in Canada, Mexico, or U.S. associated entities in the Eastern Pacific Ocean, please contact Doug Austen ([dausten@fisheries.org](mailto:dausten@fisheries.org)) and request to

become a Western Division member.

Indigenous/Tribal Member: Those who self-identify as being American Indian, Alaska Native, First Nation, Native Hawaiian, or Pacific Islander. Preference will be given to Society and WDAFS members, but membership is not required and award will cover non-member registration.

For more information and to apply for the Student, Early Career Professional, Professional, Emeritus, International Member, and Indigenous/Tribal Member travel grants, please visit our [website](#).

Additionally, the WDAFS Diversity and Inclusion Committee offers a Diversity and Inclusion Mentorship travel grant. The nomination process for this travel grant can be found in this issue as well as on the [Diversity and Inclusion Award and Travel Grant](#) page of our website.

## Western Division AFS Small Project Grants

Laurie Earley

### **The deadline for applying for a 2024 WDAFS Small Project Grant is April 1, 2024**

The WDAFS is currently accepting applications for funding of small fisheries-related projects in the western United States, US territories, Pacific Islands, Mexico, and Canadian provinces represented by the WDAFS. Grants are usually modest, averaging less than \$1,000, but can help get a project started or be used to supplement funding from other sources. There is a total of \$4,000 available for projects this year.

Applications must be emailed with the subject line "Small Grant Application" to WDAFS Past President Laurie Earley at [pastpresident@wdafs.org](mailto:pastpresident@wdafs.org) no later than April 1, 2024.

### **Funding Priorities**

Projects that further the mission and strategic objectives of the American Fisheries Society and the Western Division will be targeted for Small Project Grant funding. AFS' mission 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. The Western Division endeavors 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.

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

Promote the AFS mission and WDAFS objectives? Please refer to the AFS Strategic Plan, available on the AFS website.

Incorporate and promote science-based management, conservation, or understanding of fisheries resources?

Elevate the visibility of fisheries issues to a broad audience?

Need WDAFS funding to complete the project?

Did the applicant follow instructions?

Application Instructions



## 2024 WDAFS MEETING UPDATES, *cont.*

An AFS member must submit the application. Applications must be received via email no later than April 1, 2024 for consideration. Applications over 3 pages in length will be disqualified (use 1-inch page margins and 11 pt font). All of the information requested below must be included in the application:

Project title

Name of AFS member seeking funding

Applicant's AFS member number

Name, address, phone number, and email address of one or more contacts

Project description (limit to 1 page). Describe how the project aligns with and furthers AFS's mission and WDAFS' objectives.

General project timeline, including estimated time to completion

Total estimated project cost, amount of funding requested from WDAFS, and amount of funding provided by other entities (identify sources).

Typically, small project grant awards cannot be used for travel (mileage or per diem) except in special situations. If your application budget includes travel

funds, please contact Laurie Earley (pastpresident@wdafs.org) to find out if they may be covered by the award.

The WDAFS Executive Committee will review applications, select grantees, and notify applicants of their decision by April 19, 2024. Again, in order to realize the greatest value from limited WDAFS resources, projects addressing AFS goals and objectives, those with high visibility, and those with a greater positive impact on fisheries resources will be given priority. The number and amount of funds provided to grantees is contingent on funding priorities and the availability of funds. We reserve the right to offer a grant amount that is different than that requested. Payment will be by check and will be provided as a reimbursement and all receipts must be submitted by February 15, 2025.

The WDAFS is a tax-exempt non-profit organization dedicated to the professional advancement of its members and the conservation and wise use of the fisheries resource. Anyone wishing to donate to the WDAFS Small Project Grants fund is urged to contact WDAFS Past President [Laurie Earley](#).

## Film & Photo Festival

Tim Copeland



The Western Division American Fisheries Society (WDAFS) and the Pacific Islands Chapter of AFS (PIAFS) invite you to submit an aquatically oriented films and photographs to be showcased as part of the

### **AFS 2024 Aquatic Film and Photography Festival.**

This film and photography festival will occur during the AFS Meeting in Honolulu, HI, September 15-19, 2024 ([154th Annual Meeting of the American Fisheries Society – September 15-19, 2024, Honolulu](#)).

**To accommodate organizational needs, film submission forms are due July 1, 2024 to secure a tentative spot in the festival and final film and photography submissions are needed by July 15, 2024.**

**\*\* Film and photography submissions may be used in promotion of the conference (e.g., publication and film festival trailer).**

### **Film submissions must:**

- Focus on aquatic themes (freshwater, estuarine, and marine) that advance our understanding, appreciation, and management of aquatic ecosystems. This could include films that showcase beauty, science, restoration, and management. Of particular interest

## 2024 WDAFS MEETING UPDATES, *cont.*

are films that address the meeting theme of **“Conserving Fishes and Fishing Traditions Through Knowledge Co-Production”**

- Be less than 30 minutes in length - preference will be given to shorter films (ideally 10 minutes or less) to allow for more films to be included in the festival.

Be downloadable to conference organizers online or via [vimeo.com](https://vimeo.com).

Participants are limited to three film submissions but priority will be given to films that provide an opportunity for more individuals to present their work.

### Deadlines:

- Completed submission form is due on **July 1, 2024**.

Final cut film submissions with web links are due no later than **July 15, 2024**. As long as organizers can access the films online to facilitate the jury selection process, videos do not need to be uploaded to Vimeo and available for download at this time.

If you have any questions please contact Tim Copeland at [vicepresident@wdafs.org](mailto:vicepresident@wdafs.org) or by phone at (208) 697-7520.

Jury-selected best films will be played during a dedicated film festival event during the conference. Jury- and audience-selected best films will be recognized after completion of the conference.

**Film Submission Form** (send no later than **July 1, 2024** to [vicepresident@wdafs.org](mailto:vicepresident@wdafs.org)):

Film Contact First and Last Name:

Film Contact Organization:

Film Contact Member Type, Student or Professional (if applicable):

Film Contact Email:

Film Contact Web address (if applicable):

Film Name:

Film Description (200 words or less):

Film length:

Permanent URL for film to be shared in the festival program (if applicable):

**Upload film to Vimeo** – If your film is selected, you will be asked to upload your film to Vimeo so that it can be accessed and downloaded by the festival organizers prior to the event. If you don't already have an account on [www.vimeo.com](https://www.vimeo.com), begin by signing up (it's free!). Using this platform's uploading service, upload your finished film and share the link in your submission form (above). The link should look some-

thing like this: [www.vimeo.com/82813271](https://www.vimeo.com/82813271).

You must change the privacy settings so that we are able to download your submission. To do this, scroll below your downloaded video and description and click the 'settings' button. Select the 'privacy' tab and scroll to where it says 'What Can People Do With This Video' and select 'Download The Video'. By following these steps, Vimeo will compress your video and allow us to easily watch and download your film for the festival. Once your film has been downloaded we will let you know so you can change the privacy setting on Vimeo or delete it upon your preference. Please send an email to [Tim Copeland](mailto:Tim Copeland) with your Vimeo link details.

### **Photo Submissions**

**Photos** – High-resolution photographs with aquatic themes can be emailed directly to [Tim Copeland](mailto:Tim Copeland) by **July 15, 2024**. Aquatic themes can include riverscapes, oceans, estuaries, underwater biota and scenes, fish activities, science activities, management activities, etc. Photographs will be viewable by AFS meeting attendees in a slide show as part of the film festival; photos will not be individually posted on the meeting website or available for download or use beyond the meeting. In addition, select photographs may be shown opportunistically throughout the meeting. The best photographs will receive awards and be recognized during the conference. In addition, top photos will be printed on wrapped canvas, displayed during the film festival, and offered in the silent auction to raise funds for AFS programs. Photographers may submit between 1-5 photographs. The following information should accompany each photograph and should be provided at the time of photo submission.

Photographer's name:

Photographer's Member Type, Student or Professional (if applicable):

Photograph title (should include fish name and location taken if appropriate):

Photograph purpose (What is the purpose or story of the image? For example, purposes may be to increase awareness of a certain topic or to show the beauty of underwater life):

Filenames of the photographs should include the last name of the photographer and a short title of the image. Files should be .jpg format.

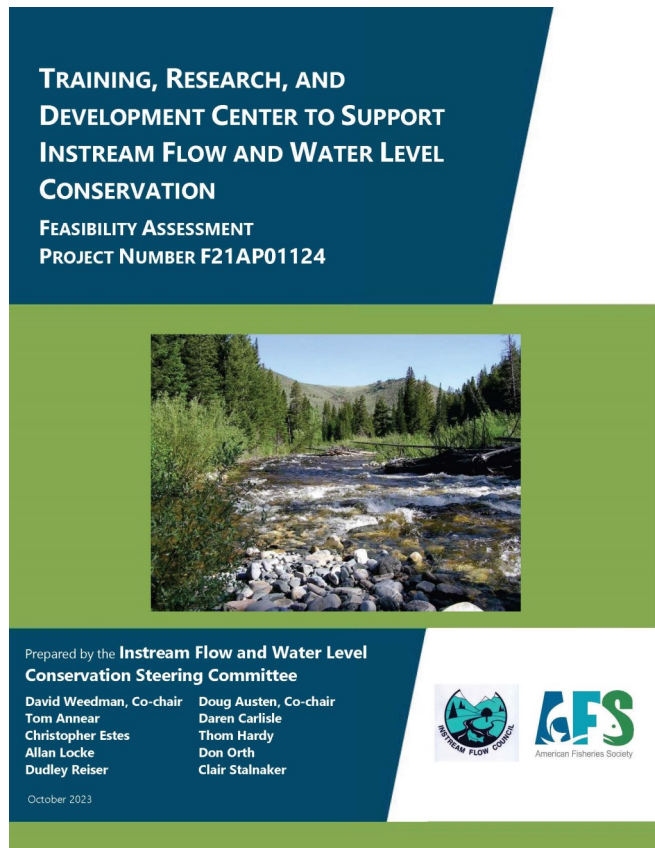
If you have any questions about photo submissions please contact [Tim Copeland](mailto:Tim Copeland).

## WDAFS PROJECT UPDATES

# Establishing a new Instream Flow and Water Level Conservation (IFWLC) Training, Research, and Development Center: Progress Report

Christopher C. Estes

Based on public review feedback of the January 2023 draft, the final feasibility assessment report for establishing an instream flow and water level conservation (IFWLC) training, research, and development center has been completed and is available for [download](#).



### Citation:

Weedman, D., D. Austen, T. Annear, D. Carlisle, C. Estes, T. Hardy, A. Locke, D. Orth, D. Reiser, and C. Stalnaker. 2023. Training, research, and development center to support instream flow and water level conservation: Feasibility assessment. Multistate Conservation Grant Project Number F21AP01124, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration. Instream Flow and Water Level Conservation Steering Committee.

tee. Instream Flow Council and American Fisheries Society. 78 p.

### Results:

The results of the completed assessment report portion of this project established the need, support, strategies, and pathways forward to develop the Center.

### What's Next?

The next project steps will include crafting a business plan to facilitate implementation of the assessment report recommendations and execution of other preliminary actions required to establish and operate the Center. Future updates will be posted online in 2024.

### Background:

For nearly two decades, interdisciplinary instream flow related conservation (protection, restoration, and enhancement) training, research, and development services were provided under the direction of the federal Cooperative Instream Flow Service Group (CIFSG) in Fort Collins, Colorado.

After that group ceased to exist in 2001, no equivalent centralized uniform source of instream flow and water level conservation (IFWLC) training and support services has been established.

Many who received training by the CIFSG have subsequently retired or moved to other jobs. As a result, this interdisciplinary water conservation field has been losing a central focus, potentially leading to diminished knowledge, mentorship, and leadership for quantifying the effects of water uses, management, and research on effective conservation of instream flow and water levels on fish, wildlife, and habitat.

These and related concerns are being addressed by the [Instream Flow Council \(IFC\)](#) and [American Fisheries Society \(AFS\)](#) through a [multistate conservation](#)



## WDAFS PROJECT UPDATES, *cont.*

[grant project](#) to first assess the needs and support for establishing a new IFWLC training, research, and development center (Center), and contingent on positive outcomes of the assessment, develop strategies and pathways forward to establish and operate the Center.

As part of this process, the IFC and AFS established a steering committee (SC)\* comprised of experts to execute this project. The SC represents governmental, non-governmental, academic, and private sectors to execute this project. Each has extensive experience in integration of the interdisciplinary development, training, and application of IFWLC methods and has remained actively involved in water resource allocation issues.

### \*Steering Committee:

Co-Chair David Weedman, IFC Past President  
Co-Chair Doug Austen, AFS Executive Director

Tom Annear  
Daren Carlisle  
Christopher Estes  
Thom Hardy  
Allan Locke  
Donald Orth  
Dudley Reiser  
Clair Stalnaker

Online Comments, Questions, Update, Alerts Form:  
Please use the [IFC Home Page](#) online form to submit project comments, questions, or to receive updates.

## WDAFS COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Early Career Professionals Committee

Tawni Riepe & Audrey Harris (WDAFS Early Career Professionals Committee)

We are recruiting new committee members! What does this look like? Attend quarterly meetings and assist with scheduling, recruiting, and implementing continuing education opportunities, winter webinar series, and keeping our Instagram handle up to date! Contact Tawni Riepe and Audrey Harris at [ecpchair@wdafs.org](mailto:ecpchair@wdafs.org).

#### ECP Travel Grants

Applications for 2024 WDAFS Travel Grants are open! For more information about grants available to early career professionals and the application pro-

cess, visit <https://wdafs.org/travel-grants/>.

#### CV and Cover Letter Review Form

Typically, the ECP committee hosts a CV and cover letter review session at annual meetings. However, we are extending this service year-round! We developed a Google Form to allow students and early career professionals to upload their materials for review at any point during the year. If you're interested, submit your materials [here](#):

### Western Native Fishes Committee

Timothy D'Amico & Luke Schultz (WDAFS Western Native Fishes Committee)

The Western Native Fishes Committee will have committee meetings in preparation for the 2024 year. For those of you who are on our listserv, keep an eye out for correspondence to help us schedule a time. For those of you who are not and would like to be added to our listserv, please contact us at [westernnativefishes@gmail.com](mailto:westernnativefishes@gmail.com). Upcoming committee meetings will help guide committee co-chairs and members in fulfilling our mission, including helping the

*Salvelinus confluentus* Curiosity Society (ScCS) prepare for their 2024 meeting, as well as hopefully another native fishes symposium at the upcoming 2024 WDAFS meeting in Hawaii. We look forward to hearing from those interested in helping plan either or both of those, as well as future WNFC tasks.

## WDAFS COMMITTEE UPDATES, *cont.*

### Resource, Policy & Environmental Concerns Committee

Bob Hughes (WDAFS Resource, Policy, & Environmental Concerns Committee)

A paper encouraging State protections for wetlands and non-permanent streams was published by Fisheries (48:465-468) in response to the US supreme court's removal of federal protections for those waters. A revision of 'Environmental Impact Assessments Should Include Rigorous Scientific Peer Review' was resubmitted to Water Biology & Security. Another manuscript entitled 'Waterbody Connecti-

ty: Linking Science and Policy for Improved Water Protection' is being submitted to BioScience. The RPECC is organizing a session for the 2024 AFS annual meeting in Honolulu entitled 'Fire Effects on Surface Waters.' Please contact [Laurie Earley](#) or [Bob Hughes](#) if interested in presenting.

### Diversity & Inclusion Committee

Emily Chen (WDAFS Diversity & Inclusion Committee)

#### Diversifying the Award Process

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee developed recommendations on how to diversify winners of awards given throughout the American Fisheries Society. Improving the accessibility of the nomination process is valuable to increasing the number of nominees received for awards and ultimately diversifying awardees. Recommendations can be found below.

#### Apply for 2024 D&I Awards

The Diversity & Inclusion Committee is proud to offer two Diversity & Inclusion awards: one for Mentorship and one for Service. The D&I Mentorship Award will be presented to a promising student or early career professional interested in developing diversity, equity, and inclusion leadership skills. We highly encourage nominations, including self-nominations, for individuals belonging to historically underrepresented minority groups in the fisheries field. AFS membership is not required to apply to this award. Funds are available to support the awardee. The D&I Service Award will be presented to an AFS Western Division Member who has exhibited service and commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives within the fisheries profession. The purpose of the award is to celebrate everyday, unsung heroes who dedicate their time and passion to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. Information on these awards, deadlines (TBA ~mid-May), and how to submit a nomination will be announced at: <https://wdafs.org/awards/information-deadlines>

-applications/individual-awards/.

#### Join Our Committee

The Committee is looking for new members to join our committee in 2024. Contact [diversityinclusion@wdafs.org](mailto:diversityinclusion@wdafs.org) to be added to listserv

#### Recent Events

Committee Meeting Dec 1, 2023

#### Upcoming Events

Next Committee Meeting January 2024

Working Groups

Conference Planning

Education and Training

Visibility and Awards

Equity and Access

Outreach and Recruitment



*2024 WDAFS COMMITTEE UPDATES, cont.***Ways to Increase Award Participation**

Awards are a valuable way to recognize excellence and celebrate efforts within the community. However, nominations can be limited by factors that we can help change.

**Reasons why people may not submit nominations****Improvement opportunities****Insufficient advertisement**

Increase frequency and duration of advertisements

Diversify outlets, especially those accessed by underrepresented members

Encourage past awardees to nominate others

Ask externally for feedback on missing or confusing information and inadvertently exclusive language in advertisement

**Too much effort**

Application effort should match nature of award

Short answer responses to criteria questions versus narrative letter format

Convenient nomination process (e.g., Google Forms)

Incentivize nominations (e.g., raffle tickets at meetings)

Recognize all nominees to encourage entries

**Mismatched timing**

Accept nominations year-round

Provide opportunity for nominations on the spot (e.g., a tablet set up at annual meetings)

Offer and announce extensions

**Unclear or lofty criteria**

Provide clear guidelines or a template

Ensure there are award categories for less grand achievements

brought to you by:

Western Division of the American Fisheries Society  
Diversity and Inclusion Committee



Visit Us: <https://wdafs.org/about-us/committees/diversity-and-inclusion-committee/>

*UPCOMING 2024 WDAFS CHAPTER MEETINGS*

	Chapter	Dates	Location
	AZ/NM	February 1 -23, 2024	Flagstaff, AZ
	UT	February 5 -7, 2024	St. George, UT
	MT	February 20—23, 2024	Lewistown, MT
	OR	February 26—March 1, 2024	Bend, OR
	CO/WY	February 27—29, 2024	Laramie, WY
	AK	March 24—29, 2024	Seward, AK
	CA/NV	April 9—12, 2024	Redding, CA
	WA/BC & ID (Joint)	April 29—May 2, 2024	Spokane, WA
	PI, WDAFS & AFS	September 15 -19, 2024	Honolulu, HI



*UPCOMING 2024 WDAFS CHAPTER MEETINGS, cont.*

## OREGON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

# 2024 60TH ANNUAL MEETING

**Better Together - Celebrating 60 years of  
partnerships, collaboration, and teamwork**

The 2024 Annual Meeting marks the 60th anniversary of the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The theme 'Better Together' will emphasize all the ways we are working together to accomplish great things. This includes all the lessons learned and successes realized in the past, all the ways we are striving to work together right now in the present, and looking forward toward the future as we continue to grow and learn new things.



**REGISTER NOW**

**Riverhouse on the Deschutes, Bend  
February 27 - March 1, 2024**

<https://orafs.org/2024-annual-meeting/>





*UPCOMING 2024 WDAFS CHAPTER MEETINGS, cont.*

## OREGON CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

**WORKSHOPS**<https://orafs.org/2024-annual-meeting/>**WORKSHOP 1: LEAVE IT TO BEAVER? BEAVER-BASED CONSIDERATIONS FOR RESTORATION****TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH, 1:00 PM TO 5:00 PM**

**Description:** Are you interested in learning more about beaver ecology and behavior? Are you planning and designing beaver-related restoration projects to improve habitat for native fish, with the hope of naturally recruiting beaver to your project area? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then this workshop is for you. In this Fish-Wildlife professional mixer style workshop, we're inviting experienced wildlife biologists and practitioners to share their guidance on the opportunities and challenges of advancing beaver-modified landscape restoration in Oregon. Attendees will learn about State's priorities for beaver-modified landscape restoration, Beaver Ecology and Behavior 101, lessons from the field on natural beaver recruitment, and recommendations for pragmatic restoration outcomes in terms of habitat for beaver and by beaver.

**Workshop Organizer:** Adrienne Averett, Acting Interdivision Beaver Coordinator, [adrienne.w.averett@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:adrienne.w.averett@odfw.oregon.gov)

**WORKSHOP 2: FEDERAL & STATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES****WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM**

**Description:** Join Karen Hans, Good Neighbor Authority Program Coordinator with ODFW, to explore the variety of federal and state grant opportunities. Together with representatives from federal and state agencies, the instructor team will present and review federal and state funding sources and the variety of process and nuance that goes into each opportunity. With the current high level of funds available to help support the good work going on in Oregon, this workshop will help you be successful in those opportunities.

**Workshop Organizer:** Karen Hans, Good Neighbor Authority Program Coordinator, [karen.m.hans@odfw.oregon.gov](mailto:karen.m.hans@odfw.oregon.gov)

**WORKSHOP 3: NAVIGATING DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS: STRATEGIES TO WORK THROUGH DISAGREEMENTS TO ACHIEVE BETTER RESULTS****WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 8:00 AM TO 12:00 PM**

**Description:** Back by popular demand, ORAFS is excited to be able to offer this workshop again free of charge. It sold out last year, and space is limited, so make your reservations early. During this participatory course you will learn and practice skills for working through disagreements to achieve better results.

You will learn how to:

- spot the conversations that are keeping you from what you want
- understand and manage what you bring to a difficult conversation
- strategies for how to speak honestly and respectfully
- share messages in a way that invites others into the conversation

**Workshop Organizer:** Tiffany Lundy, Associate Director for Learning and Development with the University of Oregon, [tlundy@uoregon.edu](mailto:tlundy@uoregon.edu)





*UPCOMING 2024 WDAFS CHAPTER MEETINGS, cont.***ID—WA/BC Joint Chapter Meeting**

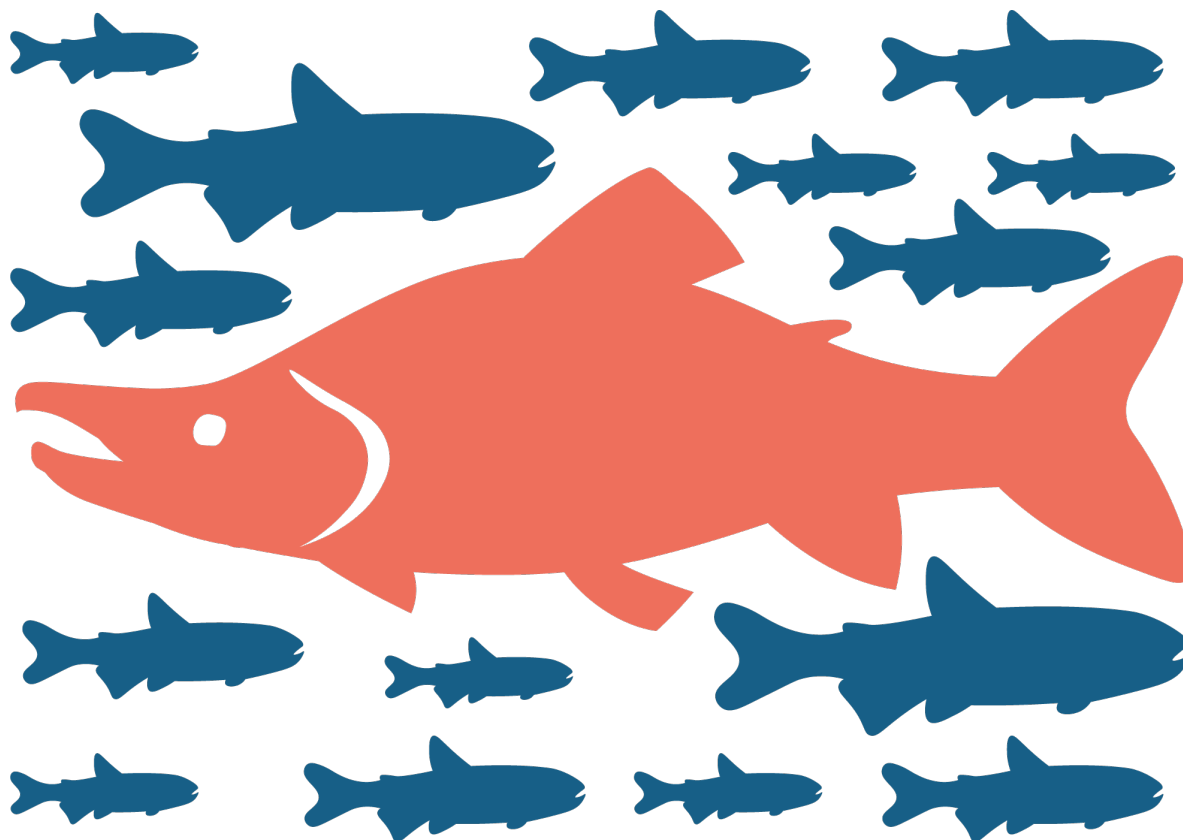
Rebekah Horn (WA/BC AFS)

The Idaho and Washington/BC Chapters of AFS are excited to host a joint chapter meeting taking place April 29 to May 2, 2024, in Spokane, Washington. The theme for the meeting is “Returning Home — Anadromous Fisheries in the Pacific Northwest”. There will be at least 6 workshops and 19 symposia with abstract and poster submissions now open. The deadline for abstract submission is January 31, 2024.

To submit an abstract for oral presentations and/or the poster session, please click [here](#).

If anyone has any questions, please contact Idaho President-Elect Lauren Andrews ([president-elect@idahoafs.org](mailto:president-elect@idahoafs.org)) or WA-BC President-Elect Sean Simmons by email ([sean@anglersatlas.com](mailto:sean@anglersatlas.com)).

To view the full list of symposia, please click [here](#).



# RETURNING HOME

**ANADROMOUS FISHERIES IN  
• THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST •**

## Meet Your WDAFS Officers

### President: Eric Fetherman

*Hometown:* Lakewood, CO

*Education:* B.S., Colorado State University; M.S., Colorado State University; Ph.D., Colorado State University

*Employer:* Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Fort Collins, CO

*Interests:* I enjoy hiking and backpacking with my wife, especially in Rocky Mountain National Park on any free weekend we can find, as well as hunting, fishing, birdwatching, and photography.



### Vice President: Tim Copeland

*Hometown:* Boise, ID

*Education:* Ph.D, Virginia Tech University

*Employer:* Idaho Department of Fish & Game

*Interests:* Flshin', hikin', huntin' and other excuses to go see things outside.



### Secretary-Treasurer: Laura Burckhardt

*Hometown:* Casper, WY

*Education:* M.S, University of Arizona

*Employer:* Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Cody Wyoming

*Interests:* I enjoy exploring nature. Including hiking, kayaking, rafting, paddleboarding, backpacking, camping, skiing, fishing, hunting, harvesting and preserving my own food. I also enjoy helping kids learn to love and take care of our natural resources.



### President-Elect: Julie Carter

*Hometown:* Phoenix, AZ

*Education:* B.S. Biology Northern Arizona University; M.S. University of Alaska Fairbanks

*Employer:* Arizona Game and Fish Department

*Interests:* I love to fish for trout and I'm currently working to complete the Arizona Trout Challenge and the Western Native Trout Challenge. Spending time hiking in the mountains, trips to the beach, and seeing live music with my family.



### Past President: Laurie Earley

*Hometown:* Colchester, VT

*Education:* B.S., University of Rhode Island; M.S., Auburn University

*Employer:* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Essex Junction, VT

*Interests:* Outdoor recreation of all kinds, traveling, gardening, cooking, reading, and exploring our surrounding with our 1 year old daughter.



### Student Representative: Meredith Leigh Journey

*Hometown:* Emerald Isle, North Carolina

*Education:* B.S., Utah State University; M.S. University of Washington

*Employer:* PhD Student, University of Wyoming

*Interests:* I love to spend as much time as possible in the mountains: rock climbing, mountaineering, skiing, and trail running. Ideal rest day: doing the NYT crossword and eating donuts.



Western Division American Fisheries Society