AFS BULLETIN

The initiation of this bi-monthly publication which replaces the Newsletter should do much to solve the publication dilemma. Although not as august a publication as the Transactions, it will feature articles on fishery management, aquatic resources, professional responsibilities, environmental philosophy, and more. Here is a vehicle where management ideas, thoughts, and findings can be published as well as a host of other considerations.

It seems that the Bulletin can do much toward settling the feeling that Society publications do not represent all disciplines. Of course, to satisfy a desire for publication of results, the material must first be submitted. Realizing that a time of resource-environmental crisis and interest has emerged in the western United States, the Bulletin may serve as a ready source for airing problems and seeking solutions through feedback.

INVOLVEMENT IN CURRENT ISSUES

Key to participation in all aspects of fishery science is total involvement in the resource and activities affecting it. Greater activism and stronger response to issues is popular among members but concerns Society administration. More active involvement may mean possible loss of tax-exempt status — a classification allowing tax deductible dues and tax deductible contributions (sustaining funds).

Current laws governing tax classification provide that no organization with the tax status of AFS may undertake substantial legislative activity at any level unless invited to do so by legislative committees. Activities of Chapters and Divisions may be restricted because the whole (AFS) is responsible for the parts. However, if the Society is not totally involved — scientifically and politically — in resource management, it may lose much of what it seeks to protect.

What are the alternatives? There are other classes of tax exemption which allow somewhat greater "activism" but restrict other activities or make administration more complex and even less manageable. Congress is considering a bill (H.R. 8021) which would allow AFS and other similarly classed bodies to devote up to 20% of their expenditures to legislative activity, including lobbying, with no risk to tax status.

Bob Kendall at the National Office has prepared a detailed report on tax status (Report of Ad Hoc Tax Status Committee). Interested members — everyone concerned about a more active Society — should obtain a copy of the report and read it carefully. We should be involved in all facets of resource management, but we should also be aware of what this may mean to the Society and what can be done to protect the tax status, if that is desirable, while participating fully in the evolution of the fishery resource.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

A recent issue of Items for Fishery Scientists (SFI Bulletin, October 1975) indicated that the job pool in fishery science is a buyer's market. The home office of AFS receives an average of about eight job applications per week. All of this certainly indicates a vital interest in the fishery resource — a part of our wildlife legacy — by young scientists. Can job opportunities keep pace with supply? Perhaps educators should consider this when talking with prospective fishery students.

At the 105th Annual Meeting of AFS, Dr. R. O. Anderson, Chairman of the Board of Professional Certification, said that universities are not training too many fishery people. An interesting statement when the experience of those seeking jobs is considered. Many well qualified people are unable to find work and, in turn, the large supply of trained people has kept salaries very low in some cases.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

WESTERN DIVISION NEWS
c/o Wyoming Game and Fish Department
351 Astle Avenue
Green River, Wyoming 82935

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American Fisheries Society

WESTERN DIVISION

NEWSLETTER

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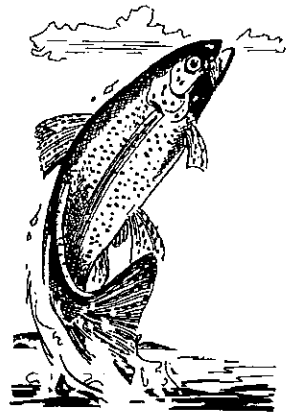

COMMENT

A newsletter serves as a vital link between an organization and the people it serves and represents. With this first issue of the Western Division News, we hope to strengthen the Division through contact with all of the varied interests. The need for members to know that their Division is active and involved is crucial to the continuation of a strong group. The need for the Division to communicate with its people is important, and equally important is feedback from members — chapters as well as individuals — for it is feedback which fine-tunes the system.

At least two issues of the News are planned each year and perhaps more if all difficulties can be worked out. The first few may be a bit rough because a journalist I am not. Whatever polish these issues may have is due entirely to those who have helped me: Dave Dufek, Fred Eiserman, and Jim Mullan, in particular, and many others.

We welcome comments and encourage everyone to contribute ideas. For the present, comments should be addressed to:

Western Division News
c/o Wyoming Game and Fish Department
351 Astle Avenue
Green River, Wyoming 82935

1976 MEETING WESTERN DIVISION SUN VALLEY, IDAHO

Program Chairman Bill Platts has indicated that the meeting is scheduled for July 26 through 29, 1976, in Sun Valley in association with the Western Association of Game and Fish Conservation Commissioners. What appears to be an excellent program is being developed. The sessions planned are: July 26, 1976: Fishing Regulations — Hell or Heaven, Interdisciplinary Approach to Solving Fishery Problems, Environmental Physiology of Fishes; July 27, 1976: Professionalism, Working Fisheries into the Information and Education Programs, Fish Culture and Health; July 28, 1976: Fisheries and the Energy Program, Enforcement as Related to Fisheries, Echo Sounding and Deep Water Fish Sampling; July 29, 1976: Business Session during the morning.

Everyone interested in presenting a paper at any of the sessions should contact the respective Session Chairman.

Fishing Regulations — Hell or Heaven: Bruce May, P.O. Box 606, Cedar City, Utah 84720

Interdisciplinary Approach to Solving Fishery Problems: Robert Phillips, P.O. Box 3623, Portland, Oregon 97208

Environmental Physiology of Fishes: Dr. Gary Wedameyer, Western Fish Disease Laboratory, Building 204, Naval Support Activity, Seattle, Washington 98115

Professionalism: C. J. Campbell, P.O. Box 3503, Portland, Oregon 97208

Fish Culture and Health: Ron Goede, Route 1, Box 254, Logan, Utah 84321

Working Fisheries into the Information and Education Programs: Dr. Gar Workman, Department of Wildlife Sciences, College of Natural Resources, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322

Fisheries and the Energy Program: Dr. Robert Raleigh, Fish and Wildlife Service, Biological Services, Room 206, Federal Building, 301 South Hawes Street, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521

Enforcement as Related to Fisheries: Gordon Haugen, Gallatin National Forest, Box 130, Bozeman, Montana 59715

Echo Sounding and Deep Water Fish Sampling: Stacy Gebhards, 600 South Walnut Street, Boise, Idaho 83706

There will also be the opportunity for poster displays throughout the meeting. Posters are a very effective way to demonstrate fishery ideas and do not involve formal spoken presentations. Mr. Eric Bergersen is coordinating the poster displays and can provide all information regarding size and preparation of the displays. For those wishing to present a display but unable to attend the meeting, the Division will pay shipping charges associated with getting the material to Sun Valley. Those interested in the poster displays can contact Eric at Colorado Cooperative Fishery Unit, Room 102 Cooperative Building, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80521.

Anyone having resolutions should send them to Mr. Dale Lockard, Resolutions Committee Chairman, Nevada Department of Fish and Game, Reno, Nevada. The resolution process can be an effective means of providing input relative to the resource.

Mr. Don Archer, Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, 1596 West North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84116, is serving as Chairman of the Time and Place Committee. Don's committee will be considering ideas for the location of future meetings of the Division. Please provide suggestions for meeting places to Don. As per the Seattle meeting, the membership will have the opportunity of voting on meeting places in future years, so your ideas are important.

WESTERN DIVISION MEMBERSHIP CONCERNS

President Cam Stevenson has placed me on the Membership Concern Committee to try and search out items that bother the membership. The Western Division was responsible for many changes this past year at the Society level because we stood up for what we believed in. The Society and its structure is much better because of it. We shouldn't stop here as the membership still has to have more of a voice in Society functions and structure. If you have ideas, gripes, suggestions, complaints, etc., please let me have them, and we can put them into the Committee report.

Items to consider are:

1. Transactions
2. The New Bulletin
3. Affiliation with the Conservation Commissioners
4. Constitution and Bylaws
5. Meeting places and time
6. Executive Committee functions and make-up
7. Dues structure
8. Student participation
9. Activism and political influence
10. Goals and direction
11. Program material
12. Finances and their expenditure
13. Chapter-Division-Society relationships
14. Many other items

Please give me your ideas. I'll see they are placed in the Committee reports.

WILLIAM S. PLATTS, Committee Member
1503 Sunrise Rim
Boise Idaho 83705

IN-STREAM FLOW SYMPOSIUM

An In-Stream Flow Symposium will be sponsored by the Western Division in conjunction with the American Society of Civil Engineers in Boise, Idaho, May 3-6, 1976, at the Rodeway Inn. It will be a powerful Symposium with speakers from all over the nation. We are anticipating about 500 participants. We have 180 rooms reserved at the Rodeway Inn and another 100 reserved at the Ramada Downtowner.

Place — Room	Rate Per Room	Additional People
RODEWAY INN		
Single	$21.50 to $26.50	$4.00
Double	$25.50 to $30.50	
Triple	$29.50 to $34.50	
Four	$33.50 to $38.50	
RAMADA DOWNTOWNER		
Single	$19.00 plus tax	
Double (1 bed)	$21.00 plus tax	
Double (2 beds)	$22.00 plus tax	
Triple	$25.00 plus tax	
Four	$28.00 plus tax	

By doubling or tripling up, rates can reach anybody's pocketbook. The Symposium will be published. Mark these dates on your calendar.

WILLIAM S. PLATTS
Arrangement Chairman

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

As the Newsletter evolves, we hope to be able to pass along much more of chapter activities than we have been able to in this issue. One of the most important things is to be current relative to officers in the several chapters. All of the chapters have activities or problems of special interest which, I'm sure, would be of interest to others in the Division.

Probably one of the most important considerations in the Rocky Mountain Region with the development of energy stores is to demonstrate the importance of the environment to the socio-economic well-being of the area — who does not covet the opportunity to spend time away from large cities in areas of little congestion and scenic beauty? What we are trying to do is illustrate how vitally important the water-based resource is. Others have, no doubt, been down this road — any suggestions?

Chapter officers as they have been recorded are:

Arizona-New Mexico Chapter — President: Paul Turner, New Mexico State University; Vice President: Bill Silvey, Arizona Game and Fish Department; Secretary-Treasurer: Bob Patterson, New Mexico Game and Fish.

Bonneville Chapter — President: Dr. Clair B. Stalnaker, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Denver, Colorado; Vice President: Jack Coates, Moore-Clark Fish Feeds, Salt Lake City, Utah; Secretary-Treasurer: Bill Tate, Salt Lake City, Utah.

Colorado-Wyoming Chapter — President: Dave Dufek, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Green River, Wyoming; Vice President: Dr. Steve Flickinger, Colorado State University; Secretary-Treasurer: Robert Wiley, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, Green River, Wyoming.

DIVISION REPRESENTATION IN AFS

Many have been concerned that the Divisions are not receiving due consideration in Society affairs. As indicated in the September-October Newsletter, people from the divisions make up a majority of the Executive Committee of AFS. The Presidents and immediate Past Presidents of the divisions now serve on the Executive Committee.

In addition, a weekly report — the AFS Diary — is sent to the Executive Committee members, keeping them updated on activities of the Society. To complete the circuit, pertinent items will be reported in the Western Division News. It certainly seems that members can be represented by a responsive staff chosen by members of the Division.

Perhaps of equal importance, Western Division President Ron Goede is serving on the Special Committee on the Concerns of AFS Members. If there are special concerns, now is the time to make them known. Coffee room conversations can do little more than salve immediate feelings.

There is a mechanism to effect change, if that is what is needed, and I am sure that Ron will see that Division interests receive just consideration.

CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE DIVISION

A resolution submitted by the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter addressing aerial fish stocking in wilderness areas was passed and adopted at the 105th Meeting. The stocking of fish in wilderness areas has been of special concern to states in the Rocky Mountains. What is needed now is follow-up to determine if recent interpretations of the 1964 Wilderness Act have been modified.

Although other resolutions adopted by the Division were not adopted by the Society, several were considered very important to other organizations. John P. Harville, Executive Director of the Pacific Marine Fisheries Commission, singled out two resolutions which he considered very important. One submitted by the Alaska Chapter dealt with concerns of many biologists for genetic and environmental impacts of artificial propagation of salmonids and recommended guidelines for minimizing impacts. The second submitted by the Colorado-Wyoming Chapter recommended that public hunting and fishing rights be reserved whenever public lands are considered for sale.

Of significance here is that an organization outside AFS has recognized the efforts of the Western Division directed at more refined stewardship of the nation's fishery resources. Obviously, our efforts are not going unnoticed, and, even more important, is the fact that such efforts are recognized at a time when the Society is involved in controversy relative to degree of involvement in politically governed decisions.