



The American Fisheries Society  
**Genetics Section**  
**Newsletter**  
Volume 23, Issue 1  
February 2010



**In This Issue:**

President's Message • Election Candidate Profiles • Coastwide Salmonid Meeting •  
• SNP Workshop • Wild Trout X • Newsletter Submission • Calendar

---

**President's Message**

Dear Genetics Section Members,

This is the time of year when AFS leaders begin planning AFS activities in the coming year. I was browsing over materials recently distributed to AFS Board members in preparation for the March mid-year meeting. AFS President Donald Jackson included a draft of a work plan for his presidency. The theme for the current year and for the coming AFS annual meeting in Pittsburgh (September 12-16, 2010) is "Merging Our Deeper Currents." President Jackson writes in his draft work plan "There is incredible diversity among the ranks of fisheries professionals. Membership and the organizational structure of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) reflect this diversity. The variance that exists in AFS is music, not noise." Likewise, the Genetics Section represents a diverse group of professionals brought together organismally by common interests in aquatic creatures and the environments they inhabit, and by the suite of tools used to conduct our research and to serve the management needs of our organizations and constituencies. Further, we represent one of many sub-disciplines in the parent Society. Indeed, one of the recurrent themes of the past several years for this Section has been to increase the visibility of our Section's membership and the value of the tools and perspectives we bring to issues concerning the stewardship of aquatic resources.

I would like to briefly provide an overview of some of the activities members of our Section have been involved in that include engagement of members in other Sections and service-related activities to our Section members and to AFS as a whole. First, the Section is committed to the training and professional development of our young professionals. This year the Genetics Sections is sponsoring student awards at the **Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Meeting** (June 1-4, Boise ID, [www.idahoafs.org/meeting\\_coastal.php](http://www.idahoafs.org/meeting_coastal.php)), the **SNP Workshop** (March 22-24, 2010, Seattle WA, [www.snpworkshop.org/](http://www.snpworkshop.org/)) and in the form of the annual **Wright Award** at the annual meeting (Pittsburgh, PA, [www.fisheries.org/afs10/](http://www.fisheries.org/afs10/)).

This message serves as the first notification to our Section's student membership of the opportunity for a student to serve as an ad-hoc member of the Section's **Executive Committee** and to participate in the Society's business meeting with the Section President. The student will also participate in other Executive Committee meetings and correspondence. Students interested in making application for this position should sent me via e-mail ([scribne3@msu.edu](mailto:scribne3@msu.edu)) a CV and a letter outlining professional goals and how Committee membership would enhance their professional development and further their career goals. The Committee will accept applications concurrent with the period of applications for the Wright Award. The students will be required to attend the annual meeting. I will be contacting student members individually via e-mail to directly target our students.

Secondly, I would like to point out efforts of Section members to further our goals of expanding partnerships with other AFS groups. This year's **World Aquaculture Meeting** (March 1-5, San Diego, CA, [www.was.org](http://www.was.org)) will include a symposium jointly sponsored by the AFS Fish Culture Section, AFS Genetics Section and the World Aquaculture Association. The symposium entitled "**Cultured Aquatic Animals: Use and Implications for Stock Enhancement, Fisheries Management, and Species Diversity**" includes contributions by a number of AFS Section members. The symposium follows a successful jointly sponsored symposium with a similar theme at the 2008 AFS Annual meeting.

Section President-elect **Bill Templin** and current Section Secretary **Meredith Bartron** have organized a symposium for the coming 2010 Annual Meeting entitled "**Emerging issues affecting functional connectivity within and among riverine, lacustrine, and marine fish populations**". The symposium will be jointly sponsored by the Fish Management Section and Fish Habitat Section. These collaborations with other AFS groups exemplifies a growing commitment to increase inter-actions with other AFS constituencies.

Thanks for all the individuals helping to spread the word of our Section's activities and accomplishments. I look forward to seeing many of you at this year's Section-sponsored activities.

Sincerely,

*Kim Scribner*

AFS Genetics Section President

---

## Genetics Section Officer Elections

Listed below are the candidate biographical sketches for our upcoming section elections. For president, our candidates are **Meredith Barton** and **Lorenz Hauser**. **Andrea Drauch Schreier** and **Loren Miller** have agreed to run for Secretary / Treasurer. Be on the lookout for your electronic ballot and VOTE!

[Back to Top](#)

### **Meredith Bartron, Candidate for President**

I currently serve as the regional geneticist for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, northeast region, at the Northeast Fishery Center Conservation Genetics Lab in Lamar, Pennsylvania. I received my PhD from Michigan State University and BS from the University of Montana. The lab focuses on applying genetic principles and techniques to assist state and federal biologists to address conservation and management issues. Current research has focused on using genetics to enhance broodstock management in our hatcheries as well as to gain a better understanding of the interaction between genetic population structure and habitat usage for species including Atlantic salmon, brook trout, and American shad.

I have enjoyed working as the Genetic Section secretary-treasurer for the past two years: learning how the section sets priorities, forming partnerships and interacting with other sections, and functioning as part of the larger society. Dealing with declining membership remains one of the primary challenges for the section, and this challenge mirrors that of the parent society. In the past two years, the genetics section has actively worked with the student section to foster new relationships and encourage increased participation. Continuing these initiatives will help to increase membership in the genetics section, and future efforts by the section could expand upon these initiatives to provide mentoring options for students. Additionally, increasing the resources available to section members through improved outreach, network opportunities, and communications can help to demonstrate the benefits of section membership. I hope to be able to continue serving the Genetics Section, and to help the section continue its mission of promoting the application of genetics in fisheries management.

### **Lorenz Hauser, Candidate for President**

I am originally from the famous fishing nation of Austria, but almost exactly 20 years ago I decided to move closer to marine shores, first in Bangor and Swansea, Wales, where I did my MS and PhD, and then in Hull, England, for a postdoc. I originally worked on the behavioral ecology of freshwater fish, but in the UK saw the light of molecular markers and became interested in population genetics and molecular ecology of marine and freshwater fishes. I am currently Associate Professor at the School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, where I enjoy the integration of education and research in an applied setting, working on questions of dispersal, connectivity and population history in marine species such as dogfish, herring, cod and rockfish as well as anadromous sockeye salmon and steelhead. I have been Assistant Editor of the Journal of Fish Biology, the publication of the Fisheries Society of the British Isles (FSBI), and am currently Associate Editor of the Transactions of the American Fisheries Society. I have therefore been involved in the publication efforts of two major fisheries societies on either side of the pond, which gave me great insights into philosophies and practices of the two institutions.

If elected, I would aim to increase the relevance and attractiveness of AFS and the Genetics Section to university and college students and to new recruits in agencies while also serving existing members. I believe that the AFS needs to publicize its activities and achievements, especially targeting students and potential members already working in the field. Genetic approaches have to contribute much to fisheries sciences, and we need to make sure that the Genetics Section attracts the next

generation of fisheries geneticists in order to remain a strong player within the Society. Furthermore, I would aim to improve links with the FSBI as the two societies could learn from each other and benefit from interactions. My international background gives me a good foundation to bring new ideas and initiatives to the section.

### **Andrea Drauch Schreier, Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer**

I am a fourth year PhD student in Bernie May's Genomic Variation Laboratory at the University of California Davis. I graduated from Hillsdale College in 2003 and received my Masters degree from Purdue University in 2006. In my thesis research at Purdue, I used genetic techniques to examine various aspects of lake sturgeon reintroductions in the Midwestern US. In my dissertation research, I am applying molecular ecological techniques to examine range-wide population structure and recruitment dynamics of white sturgeon. I plan to complete my dissertation in December of 2010 and will continue as a postdoctoral scholar in the May lab, researching ways to improve relatedness partitioning in high order polyploids as well as examining the prevalence and possible causes of additional genome duplication in hatchery reared white sturgeon.

I have been a member of the American Fisheries Society since 2004 and have enjoyed serving the society in various ways. In 2007 I was heavily involved in the annual meeting in San Francisco, serving on the planning committee and co-chairing a symposium on sturgeon management and conservation. I served as secretary of the Sacramento-Davis student subunit of AFS in the 2008-2009 academic year and also organized student volunteers for the 2009 California-Nevada chapter meeting. As a past recipient of the James Wright Award, I have been impressed with the commitment of the Genetics Section to the professional development of students and young scientists. I support the goals of the current officers to increase outreach to these groups in order to bolster membership of the Section. I welcome the opportunity to aid the Genetics Section's efforts to promote education and scholarship as Secretary/Treasurer.

### **Loren Miller, Candidate for Secretary/Treasurer**

I am a Senior Research Associate in the Department of Fisheries, Wildlife & Conservation Biology at the University of Minnesota. I received my Ph.D. in Fisheries from the University of Minnesota, post-doctored in swine genetics, and returned to fish in 1998. I primarily address fisheries management and conservation questions for the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources using molecular genetic markers to assess genetic population structure, identify species and their hybrids, and determine the source population or parentage of individuals. Many of my research projects address the contributions and consequences of past or present fish stocking.

I have been most active in AFS through my state chapter. I have served as President, Newsletter Editor, and Issues Chair, and now serve as our representative to a state conservation group, the Fish and Wildlife Legislative Alliance. AFS participation has been one of the most satisfying parts of my career, and it helps me interact with fisheries managers and understand their needs and concerns. This position would make a small but important contribution to the parent society and the field of fish genetics.

---

## Symposium Announcement

### Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Meeting

**June 2-4, 2010, Grove Hotel, Boise, Idaho**

You are invited to attend the 2010 Coastwide Salmonid Genetics Meeting! Please join us for a stimulating meeting with all of your top colleagues.

#### **Important Information:**

- Located at Grove Hotel in rockin' downtown Boise! (reservation info to come)
- Proceedings planned to be published in special issue of *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* (more info to come)
- Student travel scholarship to be provided by AFS Genetics Section (more info to come)
- Mug at registration entitles holder to free beer at Banquet!
- Finish with a rafting trip on the Payette River!

#### **Tentative Agenda:**

Tuesday, June 1: Evening - Ice-Breaker Social  
Wednesday, June 2: Morning - Plenary session: Genetic adaptation of salmonids  
Afternoon –Plenary and general session  
Evening – Poster Session  
Thursday, June 3: Morning - General session  
Afternoon – Fluidigm Exhibit and Breakout Meetings  
Evening –Social & Banquet  
Friday, June 4: Morning –General Session  
Afternoon –Rafting trip

For more information, contact: Shawn Narum ([nars@critfc.org](mailto:nars@critfc.org)) or Chris Kozfkay ([christine.kozfkay@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:christine.kozfkay@idfg.idaho.gov))

---

## Workshop Announcement

### SNP Workshop III

**March 22-24, 2010 Seattle, Washington**

You are invited to participate in **SNP Workshop III** on March 22-24, 2010, to be held at a resort near Seattle, Washington. Similar to SNP II, held in Anchorage in 2006, we plan to discuss latest developments in SNP discovery and applications. Different from SNP II, we plan to broaden the scope beyond aquatic species to include the exciting developments that are taking place in studies of other non-model organisms. Papers presented at SNP III will be invited for potential publication in a Special Issue of *Molecular Ecology Resources*. For more details, visit our website at [www.snpworkshop.org](http://www.snpworkshop.org); updates will be posted as they occur.

[Back to Top](#)

For more information, contact the organizers:

Jim Seeb	<a href="mailto:jseeb@uw.edu">jseeb@uw.edu</a>
Lisa Seeb	<a href="mailto:lseeb@uw.edu">lseeb@uw.edu</a>
Lorenz Hauser	<a href="mailto:lhauser@uw.edu">lhauser@uw.edu</a>
Kerry Naish	<a href="mailto:knaish@uw.edu">knaish@uw.edu</a>
Gary Carvalho	<a href="mailto:g.r.carvalho@bangor.ac.uk">g.r.carvalho@bangor.ac.uk</a>

---

## Symposium Announcement

### Wild Trout X: "Conserving Wild Trout"

September 28-30, 2010, Holiday Inn, West Yellowstone MT

The Wild Trout Symposium brings together a broad and diverse audience of governmental entities, non-profit conservation groups, media representatives, educators, anglers, fishing guides, and business interests associated with trout fisheries to exchange technical information and viewpoints on wild trout management and related public policy. Held every 3 years, each symposium has led to innovative wild trout management approaches.

Wild Trout X offers a unique forum for professionals and anglers to interact, and where participants will be exposed to the latest wild trout science, technology and philosophies. This conference will equip participants to better manage, preserve, and restore these significant but declining resources. The symposium will focus on the needs of working-level wild trout professionals, conservationists, and trout anglers.

The Wild Trout X Program Committee is soliciting abstracts for presentations and posters. Please send brief abstracts (300 words or less) to Committee Co-chairman, Kevin Meyer no later than **April 1, 2010**.

Abstracts on all aspects of wild trout research, management, conservation, education, and recreation are welcome and will be considered. However, the following topics are of particular interest:

- Climate change and wild trout
- Whirling Disease 50 years later
- Resource extraction and wild trout resources
- The role of the Endangered Species Act in wild trout management
- Genetic considerations for managing wild trout
- Understanding interactions between wild trout and invasive species
- Sustaining interest in wild trout in our youth and urban citizens

Additional session topics will be added based on the papers that are submitted. Presentations will be accepted in oral or poster format, so please specify your preference and whether you would be willing to present in either format. Please note the authors who are selected for oral presentations at the symposium must submit a complete manuscript ready for Symposium Proceedings publication by **August 31, 2010**. Successful applicants will receive further information upon acceptance of their paper.

Abstract submission should be sent electronically to Kevin Meyer (address below) by **April 1, 2010** using Word Perfect or MS Word file format. Guidelines for abstract, poster, and manuscript preparation can be found at the Wild Trout X web site: <http://www.wildtroutsymposium.com>.

For additional information and inquiries, contact the Program Committee Co-chairs:

Kevin Meyer, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Tele: 208-465-8404, Fax: 208-465-8434, [kevin.meyer@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:kevin.meyer@idfg.idaho.gov)

Doug Besler, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Tele: 828-659-3324, Fax: 828-652-3279, [doug.besler@ncwildlife.org](mailto:doug.besler@ncwildlife.org)

Nominations are also invited for the Aldo Starker Leopold Wild Trout Medal. Two medals are conferred at each symposia in memory of this distinguished naturalist: one natural resource professional and one nonprofessional who, in the eyes of their peers, have made long-time and significant contributions to the enhancement, protection, and preservation of wild trout. Please send nomination letters and a brief rationale including complete recipient contact information no later than **April 1, 2010** to Wild Trout X Awards Chairman:

Jim Daley, New York Division of Fish, Wildlife & Marine Resources, Tele: 518-402-8959, Email: [jgdaley@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:jgdaley@gw.dec.state.ny.us)

---

## From the Window, to the Wall: it's AFS GS!!

The next deadline for the May 2010 newsletter is on or before **April 25**. Send your concerns, emails, shout-outs and such to [jcarlin@gustavus.edu](mailto:jcarlin@gustavus.edu). Yes, I did just say 'shout-outs.' After all, we in Fisheries Genetics *know* how to represent!

Sincerely,  
Joel Carlin, Newsletter Editor

---

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

### February

Feb 12 — Abstract deadline for **ASLO & NABS 2010**, the joint Meeting of American Society of Limnology and Oceanography and the North American Benthological Society. To be held June 6-11 in Santa Fe NM. See [www.aslo.org/meetings/santafe2010/](http://www.aslo.org/meetings/santafe2010/).

Feb 15 — Abstract and Early Registration deadlines for the 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress on **Conservation Biology**. To be held July 3-7 in Edmonton, Alberta Canada. See [www.conbio.org/Activities/Meetings/2010](http://www.conbio.org/Activities/Meetings/2010).

Feb 18-22 — 2010 annual meeting of **AAAS**, San Diego CA. See [www.aaas.org/meetings/](http://www.aaas.org/meetings/).

Feb 28 — Abstract deadline for **Ichs and Herps '10**, the Joint Meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society, the American Society of Ichthyologists and

Herpetologists, the Herpetologists League, and the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. To be held July 7-12 at the Westin Providence Hotel, Providence RI. See [www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/).

---

## March

Mar 1-5 — **Aquaculture 2010**, including the AFS-Fish Culture and AFS-Genetics Section symposium "**Cultured Aquatic Animals: Use and Implications for Stock Enhancement, Fisheries Management, and Species Diversity.**" Town and Country Resort and Conference Center, San Diego CA. See [www.was.org/WasMeetings/meetings/Default.aspx?code= AQ2010](http://www.was.org/WasMeetings/meetings/Default.aspx?code= AQ2010).

Mar 10-13 — 28th Annual **Salmonid Restoration Conference** in Redding Convention Center, Redding CA. See [www.calsalmon.org/](http://www.calsalmon.org/).

Mar 15 — Application deadline for **Sigma Xi Grants in Aid of Research** undergraduate and graduate research grant program. See [www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/index.shtml](http://www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/index.shtml).

Mar 22-24 — **SNP Workshop III**. See this newsletter for details, or [www.snpworkshop.org](http://www.snpworkshop.org).

Mar 31— Early registration deadline for **Ichs and Herps '10**, the Joint Meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society, the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the Herpetologists League, and the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. To be held July 7-12 at the Westin Providence Hotel, Providence RI. See [www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/).

---

## April

April 1 — Abstract and Award deadline for **Wild Trout X** to be held September 28-30, Holiday Inn, West Yellowstone MT. See this newsletter for details.

Apr 25-27 — **Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference**, Marriott Boston Newton, Newton MA. See [www.neafwa.org/2010/index.html](http://www.neafwa.org/2010/index.html).

Apr 25 — Submission Deadline for the **AFS Genetics Section Newsletter**. Contact the AFS GS editor at [jcarlin@gustavus.edu](mailto:jcarlin@gustavus.edu).

---

## May - July

June 6-11 — Annual meeting of **ASLO & NABS 2010**, the joint Meeting of American Society of Limnology and Oceanography and the North American Benthological Society. Santa Fe NM. See [www.aslo.org/meetings/santafe2010/](http://www.aslo.org/meetings/santafe2010/).



June 25-29 — **Evolution 2010**, the annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Evolution the Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB), and the American Society of Naturalists (ASN), at the Oregon Convention Center, Portland Oregon. See [www.evolutionsociety.org/SSE2010/](http://www.evolutionsociety.org/SSE2010/).

July 3-7 — 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress on **Conservation Biology**. To be held in Edmonton, Alberta Canada. See [www.conbio.org/Activities/Meetings/2010](http://www.conbio.org/Activities/Meetings/2010).

July 4-8 — **SMBE 2010**, the annual meeting of the Society of Molecular Biology. Lyons Conference Center, Lyons France. See <http://smbe2010.univ-lyon1.fr>.

July 7-12 — **Ichs and Herps '10**, the Joint Meeting of the American Elasmobranch Society, the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, the Herpetologists League, and the Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles. Westin Providence Hotel, Providence RI. See [www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/](http://www.dce.k-state.edu/conf/jointmeeting/).

---

## The American Fisheries Society Genetics Section February 2010 Newsletter

Volume 23, Issue 1

[President's Message](#) • [Election Candidate Profiles](#) • [Coastwide Salmonid Meeting](#) •  
[SNP Workshop](#) • [Wild Trout X](#) • [Newsletter Submission](#) • [Calendar](#)

---